FRONTISPIECE.

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THE FATHER of his COUNTRY:

OR, THE

HISTORY

OF THE

LIFE and GLORIOUS EXPLOITS

OF

PETER the GREAT, CZAR of MUSCOVY.

CONTAINING

The extraordinary Methods he took to improve himself in useful Knowledge, by travelling to Foreign Countries; his Battles with CHARLES XII. of *Sweden*, &c. his building the City of St. *Petersburgh*; polishing his Subjects; and many other curious and entertaining Particulars.

Published for the IMPROVEMENT and ENTERTAINMENT of the BRITISH YOUTH of both Sexes.

Adorned with COPPER-PLATES.

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Printed for G. WRIGHT. MDCCLVIII.

BRITISH MUSEUM

THE

LIFE

OF

PETER the GREAT,

EMPEROR of RUSSIA.

PETER, Son of ALEXIS MICHAELOWICH, Czar of *Muſcovy*, by NATALLIA KARILOWNA, (the Daughter of *Karil Naritſkin*, Colonel of the *Strelitzes*, whom he married for her Beauty) was born the 11th of *June*, 1672. *Peter*'s Mother was *Alexis*'s ſecond Conſort; by a former he had four Sons and five Daughters.

Czar Theodore, one of the Sons of the former Marriage, and half Brother to *Peter*, died the 17th of *April* 1682. Then *John*, a Son of the former Empreſs, and *Peter*, were jointly proclaimed *Czars*; and the Reaſon was,

 becauſe

becauſe *John* alone, on account of his Blindneſs and Infirmities, appeared incapable of ruling; therefore his younger Brother *Peter* was aſſociated with him.

The *Strelitzes*, a tumultuous Body in the *Ruſſian* Service, ſecretly practiſed with by *Czar John*'s Relations by the Mother's Side, wanted a Conference with him, in order to ſow a Jealouſy between the two Brothers, and to ſound if it was agreeable to him to have his Brother *Peter* in the Throne. It was alſo inſinuated to him, that all his peculiar Relations were turn'd out of Office, and that all *Peter*'s were in; to whom, on every Occaſion, a partial Preference was ſhewn. They caballed on all Occaſions; ſpread falſe Rumours that *Peter*'s Relations, the *Naritſkin* Family, deſigned to make away with *John*, in order that he alone might reign. They aſſembled with others in a riotous Manner; one Party had the great Alarm-Bell rung, which is never done but on moſt extraordinary Occaſions; whilſt another went to make themſelves Maſters of the Palace-Gates, in order that none might eſcape.

The Lords, then ſitting in Council, thought it high Time to think of their own Safety, and meditated their Eſcape; but by this Time the *Strelitzes* had not only deſtroyed their Coaches, but alſo carried away their Horſes; and having poſted Guards in all the proper Places around the Palace, a Party of the *Strelitzes* advanced boldly into the Court, and demanded to ſpeak with *Czar John*: He, with the

the Princeſs *Sophia*, his Siſter by the ſame Mother, preſented themſelves.

The *Strelitzes* having paid all Marks of Veneration, thus addreſſed him: "May GOD "long preſeeve *thee*; *Thou* art our *Emperor*; "but let no Traitors eſcape unpuniſhed." They ſupplicated him to take the Reins of Government into his own Hands, and to neither communicate, nor yield any Part of them to PETER; to which he anſwered in the Affirmative. Their next Demand was, that all thoſe whom they deemed Traitors ſhould be given up to them, particularly all *Peter*'s Relations by the Mother's Side, that they might be exterminated, and that only *Peter*'s Mother, *Natallia Karilowna*, ſhould be exempted from this Sentence, by conſenting to be impriſoned for the reſt of her Days in a Cloiſter; and that they would take Care to defeat all the Enemies of *Czar John* and Prince *Peter*.

They then tumultuouſly broke into the Palace, and ſhewed no Reſpect to the Apartments of the *Czars* and *Princeſſes*, but inhumanly butchered all thoſe whom they met, and that their Malice had previouſly marked out; ſtill crying out, to give the better Grace to their Barbarity, "Long live the *Czars* *John* and *Peter*, but periſh every Traitor." There is no Exceſs of Cruelty they did not commit.

This horrible Carnage laſted for three Days, in which ſome Princes and many other Grandees, with their Servants, to the Amount of

ſome Hundreds, were aſſaſſinated; the butchering *Strelitzes* proclaiming all the Time, that nothing had been done, or was doing, but for the Preſervation of *Czar John:* This was the Pretext given to the People, but the real Cauſe was, their having been privately ſpirited up by Prince *Havanſky*, a Relation of *John*'s Mother, againſt the *Naritſkins*, whom he had long ſchemed to cut off, Root and Branch: Becauſe that from a mean Origin they had aſcended to the very Summit of Power, by one of their Family's having been married to the Emperor *Alexis*, *Peter*'s Father, and that they had in a Manner engroſſed the Government to themſelves, and only preferred their Kinſfolks, Adherents, or Dependants, to the Prejudice of the foremoſt Families of *Ruſſia*.

The Maſſacre over, *Czar John* appeared again, and requeſted that, conſidering his Inabilities of Body and Mind, they would not oppoſe his aſſociating *Peter* with him in the Government: Whereupon theſe Blood-Hounds acclaimed, "God ſave our Prince PETER;" who thereon ſhewed himſelf to, and thanked them; and, with great Deference, intreated they they would prove ſo indulgent *to him*, as not to inſiſt on the Empreſs Dowager his Mother's being encloiſter'd; to which Requeſt they growled out Aſſent.

In Times of Peace, before *Peter the Great*'s Reign, the *Czars* of *Muſcovy* uſed never to be ſeen by their Subjects, but on very extraordinary Occaſions, as at ſolemn Feſtivals, and then

then were exhibited as holy Reliques. This is the Reaſon why all the Affairs of State, *&c.* were in the Management and Diſpoſal of the *Czarina*'s next of Kindred, as Father, Brother, Uncle, *&c.* And this was the Source of Oppoſition to their *Czar*'s marrying any Foreigner, by which Means Strangers were brought into Play, and the Natives excluded.

Peter came to another Way of Thinking, though in his early Youth he had been married to a *Ruſſian* Lady of Quality, which had been a great Cauſe of Regret to him. He had within himſelf determined on the Abolition of the *Strelitzes*, who for a Series of Years had been the wicked Inſtruments of ſo much public Trouble and national Calamities; he thenceforward reſolved to ſteer the Helm of the Empire.

The *Strelitzes* having abated of their civil Rage, and Peace ſucceeding in *Ruſſia*, the two *Czars*, *John* and *Peter*, were crowned. Their firſt Care was to ſend an Ambaſſador to *Sweden*, to renew the Peace with that Kingdom; another was diſpatched to *Conſtantinople* for the ſame Purpoſe, and one to *Poland*; which laſt, on Account of the *Poles* inſiſting on *Kiow*'s and *Smolenſko*'s being reſtored to them, proved ineffectual.

In Conſequence of the Advice of his Siſter *Sophia*, and all his Mother's Relations, *Czar John* (in Deſpite of his Infirmities) married a young Lady of the Houſe of *Sublecow*; and his political Adviſers conceived Hopes of

excluding *Peter*, in caſe of any Male Iſſue. An Ambaſſador from the Emperor of *Germany* arrived a few Days after the nuptial Ceremony, about a Treaty of Pacification between the Courts, which was ratified, as alſo with ſeveral Nations from whom Ambaſſadors had come, in 1683.

In the Year 1684, Prince *James Dolgoruky*, in order to notify the Acceſſion of the *Czars* to the Throne, was ſent by them firſt to *France*, next to *Spain*. *Lewis* XIVth was ſo well pleaſed with the Compliment, that he entered into a Treaty of Commerce with *Ruſſia*.

The Princeſs *Sophia* was endowed with great Abilities; was poſſeſſed of a moſt undaunted Spirit, and unbounded Ambition; and nothing but the ſpecial Providence of God ſaved the two *Czars* from her reſtleſs and bloody Views. Her Intent was to have them both made away with, to mount the Throne, and raiſe Prince *Galitzen* to the Imperial Dignity with her, by ſharing the Scepter and her Bed with him. His having a Wife already, appeared no Obſtacle to *Sophia*, who for her, had projected a Cloiſter for Life.

The chief Abettor of the late Tumults, and the Sedition of the *Strelitzes*, Prince *Havansky*, wanton from his having ſucceeded therein, flattered himſelf ſo far as to think that he might attempt any thing with Impunity. He therefore imprudently propoſed to Princeſs *Sophia*, that his Intention was to marry

marry his Son to her younger Siſter, Princeſs *Katharine*. She affected to approve of it, and conferred ſecretly thereon with her Favourite, Prince *Baſil Glitzene*; and concluded that it was neceſſary for their own Projects to have Prince *Havansky*, formidable by his Influence over the *Strelitzes*, removed out of this Life along with his Son.

Purſuant to this Reſolution, Princeſs *Sophia* invited Prince *Havansky* and his Son to an Entertainment; which Invitation appeared to them very auſpicious, but turned out quite the Reverſe, for they were both way-laid and maſſacred; and, in order to blind the Public, a Rumour was ſpread that they had been attacked and murdered by Highwaymen. Then *Sophia* and *Galitzen* ſo managed Affairs, that *Shoclowitow* was put at the Head of the *Strelitzes*, becauſe he appeared to them a very proper Perſon for their dangerous Deſigns.

By the Advice of his Mother the Empreſs Dowager, *Czar Peter*, as ſoon as he was ſixteen Years of Age, married *Eudoxia Theodorowna Lapaehin*, Daughter of the *Boyar** THEODORE ABRAMOWICH, deſcended from a wealthy and antient Family in the Empire. This Marriage was highly diſpleaſing to Princeſs *Sophia*, and to Prince *Galitzen*.

The Prince *Borris Alexowich Galitzen*, a faithful Adherent to *Czar Peter*, a few Days after the Celebration of his Nuptials, cau-

* A Lord, or Grandee among the *Muſcovites*,

tioned him againſt his Kinſman, the evil Tendency of whoſe Deſigns he had penetrated into; and farther adviſed the *Czar*, without Loſs of Time, to take on him ſolely the Government; but hinted at the ſame Time, that Prince *Baſil Galitzin*'s great Power required his utmoſt Circumſpection in doing it.

Baſil, in order to raiſe his Fame in the Opinion of, and increaſe his Intereſt with the People, undertook an Expedition againſt the *Turks*, in which he failed, as he had already miſcarried in one againſt them. His Apprehenſions were greatly alarmed on *Czar Peter*'s refuſing to ſee him at his Return to *Moſcow*. Being informed by his Emiſſaries of all the late Tranſactions about Court, he reſolved, on deſperate Meaſures, the Death of *Peter*.

For this ſanguinary Purpoſe, he and Princeſs *Sophia* broke their Minds to *Shoclowitow*, whom they had promoted to the Head of the *Strelitzes*. That Monſter, looking on her as his future Sovereign, undertook with Alacrity the Execution of this infernal Plot. Judging that any Delay would be dangerous, he collected a Body of the *Strelitzes*, to the Number of Six Hundred, with a Colonel and other Officers whom he could entirely rely on. Having communicated his Deſign to them on the Parade, and given Aſſurances of mighty Recompences for each, he marched in queſt of *Czar Peter*, who with his Empreſs lived at *Petraſinsky*.

Two

Two of the inliſted in this black Conſpiracy being not ſo barbarouſly inclined as the others, ſped with all Diligence to give Notice of the approaching Danger to *Czar Peter*, which he could ſcarcely believe, till ratified by Prince *Borris Galitzin*, and his Uncle *Theodore Naritskin*. He had but juſt Time to eſcape, with a few of his Friends, and the Empreſs, then far advanced in her Pregnancy. They all retreated about ſixty *Werſts* † diſtant from *Moſcow*, to a Convent called *Troiſta*, or the *Trinity*. Diſappointed *Shoclowitow* returned to the Princeſs and *Baſil* with Information of the *Czar*'s Eſcape, at which they were all highly grieved; nor could conceal their Confuſion, inaſmuch as by this Defeat they ſaw all their ambitious Views defeated: For no ſooner had *Czar Peter*'s faithful Subjects heard of his Peril, than they flocked around him in emulous Multitudes; among the foremoſt was General *Patrick Gordon*, with his Regiment. All the foreign Officers haſtened to him one after the other.

The *Czar Peter*, in leſs than three Days, had 60,000 Men to eſcort him to *Moſcow*; where, on the fourth Day from that of his intended Aſſaſſination, he arrived, to the general Joy of all (the Conſpirators only excepted). *Baſil* thought it moſt expedient to proſtrate himſelf at the Feet of *Czar Peter*, to plead his Innocence, and profeſs himſelf

† Equal to two thirds of an *Engliſh* Mile.

totally ignorant of the Plot. The *Czar*, on Account of his Kinſman Prince *Borris*, ſpared his Life, and having confiſcated his Eſtate, ordered him into immediate Cuſtody, and to be carried to a little Town in *White Ruſſia*, called *Colinogrod*, near *Archangel*, there to end his Days.

On this Occaſion, and for ever after, was aboliſhed by *Czar Peters*'s Means, an antient Cuſtom of confounding the Innocent with the Guilty, which had to him always appeared cruel and unjuſt. For before this Affair, not only the Family, but the Relations of a Perſon who engaged in a Conſpiracy, underwent the ſame Puniſhment. The Colonel *Shoclowitow*, with the other Conſpirators, were broke on the Wheel. The *Czar* ſpared the Princeſs *Sophia*, but ordered her to be confined for Life under a ſtrong Guard in the *Deviza Monoſtira*, which ſignifies the Maiden Convent.

In the Year 1691, *Czar Peter* aſſumed the ſole Government; diſgraced ſeveral on Account of their Connexions with Prince *Baſil*, reinſtated many, whom he had put out of Employment, and ſentenced to Baniſhment. He raiſed two new Regiments of Guards, conſiſting of two thouſand Men each; one called *Simionoſky*, the other *Prebraſiatſky*, which, with the two old Regiments of the ſame Number, to wit, *Butiſky* and *La Moſka*, amounted to near eight thouſand. And (in order to oppoſe all future Inſurrections of the *Strelitzers*, whom the *Czar* never would put

put any Confidence in) he quartered the new-raiſed Regiments either in the City, or Neighbourhood of *Moſcow*.

His Empreſs was delivered of a Prince the ſame Year; he was called *Alexis*. An Envoy came to the *Czar* from the Emperor of *Germany*, with cogent Arguments that the War againſt the *Turks* might be continued; the latter had offered advantageous Terms to induce the *Czar* to a ſeparate Peace, which he ſtrenuouſly declined without the Concurrence of his Allies, the States of *Venice*, the King of *Poland*, and the Emperor.

The *Poles* inclined to violate the Alliance, through an Offer of the *Turks* to yield to them a ſtrong frontier Town of *Podollia*, called *Caminoek*, and other Forts in *Poliſh Ukraine*, but the Oppoſition of *John Sobieſky* their King prevailed.

In the Month of *March* 1692, a *Perſian* Ambaſſador was announced to the *Czar*; he received him at the Head of twenty thouſand Men, whom he had ordered to be drawn up, and along their Fronts the Ambaſſador made his Entry. The Empreſs was brought to Bed of a ſecond Son the 25th of *October*, he was called *Alexander*: On this Occaſion an Eight Day's Feſtival was ordered by the *Czar*, who during that Time made the four Regiments of Guards to perform their Exerciſes frequently before him.

All the Action in the Field this Year, was ſome hundreds of *Tartars* being killed and taken

ken Priſoners near *Belgorod*, by General *Scheremetoff*.

The *Czar* brought Matters to a better Underſtanding with *Kanchi*, the new Emperor of *China*, than had ſubſiſted between him and his Father *Yunſky*; for having male-treated the laſt *Ruſſian* Envoy, from whom he peremptorily refuſed to receive the *Czar*'s Letters or Preſents, unleſs he would previouſly proſtrate himſelf before him in a baſe Manner, and altogether inconſiſtent with the ſovereign Dignity of his *Czariſh* Majeſty, whom he had the Honour to repreſent.

The Ambaſſador having refuſed to comply with ſuch arrogant Demands, without any farther Intercourſe, was re-conducted to the Frontiers under a ſtrong Guard. In juſt Reſentment for ſuch contemptuous Proceedings, the *Ruſſians* made frequent Incurſions on the *Chineſe* Territories, and not only defeated them in moſt Encounters, but on their very Frontiers had a Fort erected, which was beſieged by a powerful Army of the new Emperor *Kanchis*; which, when he had made himſelf Maſter of, he treated the Garriſon ſo well, as to permit them to retire to *Perinſky*, the Capital of *Douria*, with Baggage, Cannon, Ammunition, *&c.* and ordered the Governor there to be informed of his Intentions to live in Amity with the *Czar* of *Muſcovy*. The Waywode * of *Perinſky* was thereupon appointed by his *Czariſh* Majeſty, to adjuſt all Matters

* Chief Magiſtrate.

of

of Diſpute between the two Powers, and he ſent a ſolemn Embaſſy to *China* in the Month of *March*.

Ilbrand, a Native of *Germany*, was nominated Ambaſſador; after a tedious and perilous Journey, he arrived at *Pekin* on the 3d of *November* of the following Year 1693. On his Entrance into the *Chineſe* Territories, and all along the Road, he was politely entertained by the reſpective Governors, and from the Emperor met a moſt gracious Reception. Having ſettled all Matters in Litigation, and concluded a Treaty of Peace on a laſting Foundation; on the 5th of *January* 1695, he returned to *Moſcow*.

In the mean Time the *Czar*, who hated to be idle, went to *Archangel* in 1693, where having cauſed all neceſſary Repairs in the Harbour to be made, he erected a new Fort. He was highly entertained with the Shipping, and returned to *Moſcow* in the End of the Year.

The following Year he viſited moſt of the Towns of any Note within three hundred Miles of *Moſcow*. *Veronitz* drew his particular Attention: He obſerved that this large Town, ſituated near the River *Don*, or *Tanais*, was very well adapted for Ship-building: Beſides, this River, which is all the Way navigable, runs cloſe by *Aſoph*; which *Czar Peter* here firſt conceived the Proſpect to make himſelf Maſter of, by ſending down into the *Black Sea* a Fleet of Gallies and Ships.

In

In as much as all military Operations againſt the *Turks* hitherto had miſcarried, the *Czar* in the Year 1695 reſolved to march in Perſon to beſiege *Aſoph* with an Army of an hundred thouſand Men, beſides *Calmucks* and *Coſſacks*. Beſides the Inhabitants, there was in it a Garriſon of eight thouſand Men, the Fortifications indeed were weak. The *Ruſſians*, even before *Peter's* Time, had an Eye on it for a long Time. About the Middle of *June* it was completely inveſted. The Lines of Circumvallation and Countervallation finiſhed: The two Forts called *Callanſhaes*, oppoſite to each other, the River *Don*, or *Tanais* running between both, were firſt attacked by the *Turks*, both having refuſed to ſurrender on a Summons. That which was on the ſame Side of the River with *Aſoph*, a Detachment commanded by Colonel *James Gordon* took Sword in Hand, but with ſome Loſs: They ſuffered Military Execution, which ſo affrighted thoſe in the other Fort, that having abandoned it, they retired into the Town the following Night. Eighteen Braſs Cannon, two hundred Small Arms, with Proviſions and Ammunition proportionately, were found there by the *Ruſſians*.

The Attacks having been pretty far advanced, about the 10th of *July* the Beſieged made a Sally ſoon after on the Quarter of General *Gordon*, and had twenty Men killed or wounded in their Repulſe. The next Night

Night *Javaska*, a *German* Engineer, having deſerted to the *Turks*, informed them of the Plight of the Army, and who the ableſt Commanders were. He adviſed them to attack General *Lefort*'s Quarter, which he believed to be the weakeſt, if they intended to make any more Sallies. Purſuant to this Advice, a few Days after, about 3000 *Janiſſaries* marched out of the Town, made a violent Attack on *Lefort*'s Quarter, where near 1000 *Ruſſians* were killed and wounded: *Lefort* muſt have been totally defeated, had not General *Gordon* marched againſt them from the Right with a Body of 6000 *Ruſſians* beſides *Coſſacks*, he marched between the Town and *Lefort*'s Quarter, in order to cut off the Retreat of the *Turks*; which they having perceived, and loſt about two hundred Men, killed, wounded, and taken Priſoners, made a precipitate Retreat.

Czar Peter being as yet but young in Years, and a Novice in the Trade of War, had unſkilfully divided his Army under three Generals, independent of each other, in equal Numbers. On the Right was General *Gordon*, on the Left General *Lefort*, and in the Center General *Golowin*, with about thirty thouſand Men under each. About the 29th of *Auguſt*, the Attacks being reſolved on, General *Gordon* made a Report to the *Czar* that their Mines not appearing to him to be rightly directed, they would rather blow up his own People than the Works of the Enemy. His Opinion

was

was ſlighted; and about the End of *Auguſt*, the general Aſſault being reſolved on, five thouſand Men out of each Diviſion of the Army, making in all fifteen thouſand, were ſelected for that Purpoſe. Before they proceeded to put it in Execution, they ſummoned the Governor to ſurrender, threatening to put all to the Sword in caſe of a Refuſal.

The Governor not heeding it, the Attacks were made with great Reſolution, the Soldiers being ſpirited up by the *Czar*, and his three Generals. The *Turks* repulſed them twice, having killed and wounded five thouſand, and at the ſame Time flouriſhing their Colours, and crying aloud, *Alla, alla Mahommed*; after which they ſcoffed aloud from the Wall in the *Ruſſian* Language, "It is Time for you to "decamp *Muſcowiter*, *September* is near, Pro-"viſions will be ſcarce, and you have a long "Way to go."

The Neceſſity of raiſing the Siege, ſtung the *Czar* to the Quick. It was reſolved by a Council of War, to leave a ſufficient Garriſon in the *Callenſhaes*, and other Forts which they had taken during the Siege: That done, they marched homeward with the Army, determined to return early in the Spring to *Aſoph*, before which, in this unſucceſsful Expedition, twenty thouſand Men were loſt. From thence they ſet out on their Return in the Beginning of *September*, and ſuffered prodigiouſly for want of Proviſion, before they could arrive at *Nowoſcol*, about an hundred and thirty Leagues from

from *Aſoph*, and the firſt Frontier Place of the *Czar*'s Dominions on that Side. The *Czar* having detached the Troops from this Place to their aſſigned Quarters, towards the End of *October* returned to *Moſcow* with his Generals.

On the *Boriſthenes* where General *Sheremetoff*, with the *Hettman Mazepa*, commanded this Year, the Campaign was more fortunate. The Towns *Aſtrangorod*, *Fingerie*, and *Iwan*, having ſurrendered to the *Ruſſian* Troops; the Grand *Turk*, occupied in *Hungary* againſt the Emperor and againſt the *Poles*, on the Frontiers of *Podollia*, could not ſpare a ſufficient Force for their Defence.

The *Czar John* died in the End of *January* 1696, and left three Daughters, the eldeſt, *Catharina*, was afterwards married to the Duke of *Mecklenburgh*. *Anna*, the ſecond, who had been married three Months before her Father's Death to the Duke of *Courland*, and ſucceeded to the Imperial Throne after the Deceaſe of *Peter*. The third, *Proſcowia*, died a Maid. The fourth, *Maria*, died a Child.

The *Czar* made early Preparations for the Siege, and moreover furniſhed himſelf from different Powers of *Europe* with Engineers and Gunners of Skill, to make Amends for the Incapacity of his own in the preceding Year. Senſible alſo of the Inconveniency ariſing from three independant Generals, he appointed a Generaliſſimo for the ſole Management of Affairs, but to act by Council; and Boyar *Alexis Simeonowich Shein*, appearing to him the moſt qualified,

qualified: and the Army was ordered to begin its March as ſoon as the Snow ſhould be gone.

The Generaliſſimo, moſt of the Infantry, and the Cavalry, marched over Land; but General *Gordon*, with fifteen thouſand Infantry, marched to *Veronitz*. There he embarked them with the Artillery, Ammunition, and Proviſions for the whole Campaign, in flat-bottomed Boats made for that Purpoſe. The *Czar* and General *Lefort* embarked on Board of a Galley a few Days after, and reached the *Callenſhaes* much about the ſame Time that General *Gordon* did; the Groſs of the Army came up about ten Days after, with the Generaliſſimo at their Head.

This Year General *Lefort* did not ſerve on Land, but had the Command of twenty-three ſmall Gallies, ſix Cranders, and two Galleaſſes, which, in order to prevent the *Turks* receiving Proviſion and Succours, ſalied down the River *Callenſko* to the *Palus Mœotides*. The *Czar*, who had a ſtrong Paſſion for the Sea-Service, happened to be on board the Gallies when a *Turkiſh* Fleet of nine ſmall Veſſels, ſeven Barks, and thirteen Gallies appeared in their Way to *Aſoph*; he attacked and defeated them, took ſeveral of their Veſſels, deſtroyed others, made many Priſoners, found a great Quantity of Proviſion and Small Arms, with Ammunition, Cloathing for the Garriſon, in Specie fifty thouſand Ducats, ſeventy Braſs Guns. The *Czar* was not a little elated with this Succeſs.

By

By the Advice of General *Gordon* the Siege of *Aſoph*, which was carried on at the ſame Time, had the deſired Succeſs, and the Governor demanded to capitulate on the 28th, which the *Czar* refuſed, without previouſly having the Traitor *Javaſka*, who had deſerted the Year before, given up to him; which, after ſome Heſitation, was agreed to.

The farther Conditions of the Capitulation were, 1°. That the Governor ſhould give up to the *Czar* all the Chriſtian Slaves. 2°. That the Garriſon ſhould be permitted to march out with their Arms, but without Ammunition, with all the Baggage they could carry, and that their Wives and Children ſhould be put under a ſafe Convoy till out of Peril. About ſix thouſand Perſons, of which Number three thouſand ſix hundred were armed Men, marched out of the Town.

A public Day of Thankſgiving to be made by the whole Army, was commanded by the *Czar*, for the Succeſs of his Arms againſt the Unbelievers. He ordered *Aſoph* to be ſtrongly fortified in the modern Way. On the other Side of the River he had a new Fortification erected, called *Petropotis*, and had all his other ſtrong Places improved under the Inſpection of his lately-acquired Engineers. He ordered the Army in the Beginning of *September*, to repair to their reſpective Quarters, and having left in *Aſoph* a Garriſon of ſix thouſand Foot, and four Squadrons of Horſe, provided with all Neceſſaries, he ſet out for *Moſcow*, where

on

on the 9th of *October* he made his triumphant Entry. The Traitor *Javaſka* was the moſt remarkable Object in the Proceſſion, who on the Wheel a few Days after expiated his Treaſon.

In the Beginning of *February* 1687, the *Czar* got Information of a Conſpiracy planned againſt his Life, to be laid to the Charge of the Foreigners, who were to be maſſacred in Conſequence. He had the Ringladers, *Sicler*, *Pouchin*, and *Sukownia*, arreſted and carried to *Prepraſinſky*, where they were loaded with Irons, and under the Inſpection of a ſtrong Guard. The Method they propoſed to get at him, was to ſet Fire to a certain Part of the Town, whither they knew, from his often-experienced Humanity on ſuch Occaſions, that he would fly in order to have it extinguiſhed. There their Bravos were to be poſted, and the *Czar* diſpatched. Theſe were to butcher all the Foreigners, Man, Woman, and Child, as the Aſſaſſins, and to remove all Suſpicion from any of the Natives. This upon ſeparate Examination the three Chieftains confeſſed, for which horrid Deſign againſt ſo excellent a Prince they were beheaded, and in the moſt conſpicuous Parts of *Moſcow* the Heads, Limbs and Arms of theſe execrable Traitors were expoſed to public View, to inſpire a juſt Dedeſtation of all ſuch dire Attempts.

The *Czar*, after his repeated Succeſſes both at Home and Abroad, feeling his Mind above the narrow Education he had received, reſolved to

to travel and ſee the moſt diſtinguiſhed of the *European* Courts, in order to make himſelf acquainted with the Cuſtoms and Manners of Foreigners. For the Execution of which Deſign, he reſolved to ſend a ſplendid Embaſſy, being himſelf *incognito* one of the Number. Thoſe appointed to compoſe it were the Boyar *Theodore, Alexowich Golovin*, General *Lefort*, and *Proroph Boydanowich*. About the Middle of *April* they ſet out from *Moſcow*, and on the 7th of *May* arrived at *Koningſberg* in the *Ducal Pruſſia*. Thither the Elector of *Brandenburgh* came in Perſon to receive in great State *Czar Peter*, of whoſe being one of the Embaſſy, he had Information.

The Elector, during the *Czar*'s Stay there, had ſeveral Conferences with him, ordering every Thing that could contribute moſt to his Entertainment, to wit, Balls, Plays, Fireworks, and Hunting: all which the *Czar* was very fond of. The Embaſſy left *Koningſbergh* the 8th of *July*, and travelled through *Pomerania* to *Colberg*.

In *Nymark*, the Fortifications of *Cuſtrin* were viewed without Hindrance by the *Czar*; he paſſed through *Berlin* on the 20th, nor ſtopped on the Way till he reached *Copenburg*, in the Electorate of *Brunſwick*. There the Duke of *Zell* entertained him with great Splendor.

The Embaſſy arrived at *Amſterdam* in the Beginning of *Auguſt*. The *Czar* abided in that City for ſome Time, making a cloſe Inſpection into every Thing, the Ships and Ship-

building

building especially; nor did he think it beneath him to employ his Imperial Hands in Ship-Carpentry till the Close of *September*; he then went to *Utrecht*, where King *William* was, and had a Conference with him.

The War was carried on against the *Turks*, and not unsuccessfully during the *Czar*'s Absence, to which Successes General *Gordon*, by his good Conduct, contributed not a little. A triple Alliance was confirmed this Year between the Emperor, the *Czar*, and the States of *Venice*, that a vigorous War by Sea and Land should be carried on against the *Turks*, and that none of the three Parties should make Peace without the Concurrence of the other two. The *Poles* had no considerable Force in the Field, on account of the Death of *John Sobiesky* their King the preceeding Year, and the Divisions occasioned to choose a Successor.

King *William* sent one of his Yachts, with three Men of War, to bring over the Embassy and the *Czar* to *England*. His *Czarish* Majesty arrived in *London*, *June* the 11th. A Lodging in *York-Buildings* was prepared for him, but proved not to his liking, from which in a few Days he retired to *Deptford*, that he might have the Shipping more immediately under his Inspection.

He was pleased most with the Company of the *Marquis* of *Carmarthen*, and Sir *Anthony Dean*; the latter had been one of the ablest Ship-Builders in *England*, and the former was an Admiral. The *Czar*, during his Sojourn-

ment,

The Czar working in a Dock at AMSTERDAM.

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ment, frequently conferred with King *William*, and omitted nothing in *London* deemed worthy of being ſeen. The Fleet at *Spithead* attracted his particular Attention. The *Dutch* Manner of building of their Ships of War appeared to him much inferior to that of the *Engliſh*.

Among other Preſents, King *William* complimented the *Czar* with a Yacht completely manned. He took his Leave of the King at *Kenſington* the 28th of *April*, dined with the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury* at *Lambeth*, and was ſplendidly entertained by the Duke of *Leeds* at his Houſe near the *Thames* the 3d of *May*, and then embarked on Board of the Yacht, convoyed by two *Engliſh* Ships of War, under Admiral *Mitchell*'s Command.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty carried with him from *London*, a Number of Artificers of all Sorts, particularly Ship-Carpenters, and all Artiſts relative thereto; the moſt eminent of his *Engliſh* Recruits, were a Son of Sir *Anthony Dean*, and a *Scotch* Highlander, Mr. *Farquharſon*, an approved-of Mathematician; all whom he ſent on board the *Ruſſian* Fleet for *Archangel*, as ſoon as they landed in *Holland*. Before his Departure from *Holland*, the *Ruſſian* Merchants waited on, to pay their Reſpects to him, and at the ſame Time to make him a Preſent of twenty thouſand Dollars, which he without Ceremony accepted of, and in Return permitted them the Honour of kiſſing his Hand.

The next Day, his *Czariſh* Majeſty, attended by ſome *Dutch* he honoured with his Ac-

quaintance, took an Airing towards *Harderweck* in a Pleaſure-Boat. On their Return it blew ſo hard that they were in eminent Danger of being loſt. The *Czar* was ſo unmoved in the Moment of the greateſt Peril, that he bid them not be diſmayed, as it had never been known that a *Czar* of *Ruſſia* periſhed at Sea.

He left *Holland* the 15th of *May*, and purſued his Journey through *Cleves* into *Germany*, and arrived at *Dreſden* on the 1ſt of *June*, where, as ſoon as he had taken ſome Refreſhment, attended by Count *Wonleck*, he viſited the Chamber of Rarities, then viewed all the Curioſities of the Town, viſited next Day the Queen of *Poland*, and the Electreſs Dowager. His Majeſty was entertained by *Wonſurſtembergh* the Stadtholder; where all the Gentlemen and Ladies of the Court attended him, and a Round of Guns was diſcharged at the circulating of each Toaſt.

He viewed the Caſtle of *Koningſtein* (reputed impregnable) on the 3d of *June*. From *Dreſden* he continued his Journey directly to *Vienna*, through *Bohemia*. On the 16th he arrived in that Capital, and was conducted to Count *Konigſeck*'s Palace, which had been accommodated for his Reception.

At Nine o'Clock in the Morning, for their firſt Time, their *Imperial* and *Czariſh* Majeſties met in the *Favorita*, where in ſplendid Equipages attended all the Perſons of Diſtinction. At meeting, the two Emperors embraced each other,

ether, and parted after a few Compliments. On the 28th they had a long Conference together, both were uncovered, and none were permitted to be preſent but General *Lefort*, as Interpreter, and the Counts *Dicktrichſtein* and *Walenſtein*.

In Order to ſhew every Mark of Reſpect to the *Czar*, the Emperor ordered a magnificent Entertainment for St. *Peter*'s Day, at which were above three hundred Perſons of the firſt Diſtinction at *Vienna*; whereof forty Couple dreſſed after the Manner of the Boors of all the Nations they could think of, were ſeated at one Table with the *Czar*; the Parts of Hoſt and Hoſteſs were performed by the Emperor and Empreſs.

Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy* attended them; and ſeveral Miniſters, as well as the General Officers, handed the Glaſſes about, and ſerved the Table. The Emperor addreſſed himſelf with a Glaſs to the *Frieſlandiſh* Boor (the *Czar*) ſaying, I drink this off to the Health of a Prince you are not a Stranger to, to wit, his *Czariſh* Majeſty. Having returned his Thanks, he farther aſſured, that from his intimate Knowledge of the *Czar*, he could anſwer for his being a ſincere Friend to his Imperial Majeſty, and a Foe to his Foes, then drank off the Glaſs, which was followed round the Table.

The *Frieſlandiſh* Boor called ſoon after for another Glaſs, and preſented to the *Egyptian* Boor (the King of the *Romans*) ſaying, As yet your Majeſty is young, and can bear a

Glaſs better than your Imperial Father. This Health is to the Proſperity of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, which went chearfully round; the Company did not break up till after Midnight.

The *Czar* received next Day, by an extraordinary Courier, the diſagreeable News of the *Strelitzes* having revolted a-new, which haſtened his Return home. On the 29th of *July*, having taken Leave of the Emperor, he ſet out Poſt for *Poland*. He met privately King *Auguſtus* at *Reva*, a little Town near *Limberg*, and viewed the *Saxon* Troops encamped in its Neighbourhood. The *Czar*, accompanied by his *Poliſh* Majeſty, continued the 13th his Journey towards *Ruſſia*, eſcorted by four Squadrons of the King of *Poland*'s Guards to the Frontiers, where they parted.

Major General *Carlowich* was ſent along with the *Czar* by King *Auguſtus*, in Quality of Envoy, without the Character. On the 4th of *September* he arrived ſafe in his Capital; Mr. *Patcul* was of his Company in the Habit of a Groom, who had Reaſons for his being ſo diſguiſed. The Emperor of *Germany* had ſent Baron *Wonquarient*, Envoy Extraordinary to *Moſcow*, for the Ratification of the three Years Alliance; where, before the *Czar*'s Return thither, he had made his public Entry.

This Revolt of the *Strelitzes* had been artfully fomented by Princeſs *Sophia* and her Adherents, who by their Emiſſaries diſperſed Rumours amongſt the *Strelitzes*, then on the Frontiers

Frontiers of *Poland*, to ſupport the Intereſt of King *Auguſtus* againſt all Competitors, that *Czar Peter* was dead abroad, and that it was incumbent on them to return to *Moſcow* with all poſſible Diſpatch; that this was an Opportunity not to be let eſcape. Accordingly they deſerted from their General Prince *Romodanoſky*'s Army to the Number of eight thouſand. Their March towards the Capital, where they expected to be joined by many thouſands, terrified the Nobility, the Generaliſſimo, and others ſo much, that the *Czar* and his Family would have been routed, were it not for the calm and reſolute Conduct of General *Gordon*, who, having encouraged ſome of the Nobility to arm, marched at the Head of four thouſand Troops with Artillery; he firſt left no Method untried by mild Means to diſſuade them from their raſh Deſign, and to prevail on them to return to the Army, and promiſed the *Czar*'s moſt gracious Pardon.

But the *Strelitzes* ſlighted his Mildneſs and Menaces, nay offered him perſonal Affronts, on account of the Fewneſs of his Troops, the main Body of the *Ruſſian* Forces being then employed againſt the *Turks*. He however relying on the Diſcipline of his little Army, and the Skill of his Engineers and Gunners, ordered the *Strelitzes* to be immediately attacked. The Artillery was ſo well pointed, that a general Havock was made amongſt them; and being all killed or taken Priſoners, none eſcaped; ſo General *Gordon* undoubtedly preſerved *Ruſſia*

and Empire for *Czar Peter*, both which were irrecoverably loſt, had the Rebels ſhot General *Gordon* in his Parley with them, previous to the Action, and which they might have eaſily done.

The Generaliſſimo *Shein*, with the reſt of the Nobility and Gentry, who, before the Defeat of the *Strelitzes*, had ſhewn ſuch abject Fear, now declared for unlimited Cruelty, as is generally the Nature of Cowards, and were for putting them all to the Sword. But General *Gordon*, as humane as brave, voted that they ſhould be preſerved till the *Czar*'s Return, that the Motive for their Rebellion might be the better ſcrutinized. This prudent Advice having prevailed, they were handcuffed two and two, to the Number of four thouſand ſix hundred, (beſides the Wounded) and diſtributed to different Priſons.

The firſt Care of the *Czar*, after his Arrival on the 4th of *September*, and his having recovered from the Fatigue of ſo long a Journey, was to order the tranſporting of the Leaders of the Rebellion to *Prebraſinſky*, there to be tortured and queſtioned before him. Yet the Confeſſion of no other Motive could be extorted from them, than the Report of the *Czar*'s being dead in foreign Parts, and that they had thought it incumbent on them to put the Management of Affairs into proper Hands, until ſuch Time as the young *Czar* ſhould be of Age to govern. No Accuſation againſt any great Ones abetting their Rebellion appeared, till

a Youth between ſeventeen and eighteen Years, deſired to be brought before the *Czar*, and being admitted to his Preſence, declared himſelf to have been a Servant to *Aſſonacy*, one of the Leaders of the *Strelitzes*; that he could prove a Correſpondence between his Maſter and the Princeſs *Sophia*, by the Mediation of an old Woman ſupported by the Charity of the Cloyſters; that he had often ſeen her carry Loaves of Bread to and from the Convent, in which Letters were conveyed; that he had ſeen his Maſter take them out and return Anſwers by the ſame Conveniency.

This Information was farther corroborated by the Confeſſion of the old Woman, as to her carrying Bread to and from the Cloyſter, but ſhe declared her Ignorance as to the Letters. *Aſſonacy* died in the obſtinate Denial of the Fact urged againſt him; moſt of his Aſſociates ſuffered Death, for Mercy was extended to none above the Age of eighteen.

The *Czar* gave Orders that ſeveral of the Grandees, whom he had a ſtrong Foundation to ſuſpect of having been Principals in this Revolt, ſhould take the Axe into their Hands, and cut off the Heads of ſome of the Conſpirators. He ordered a Gallows to be erected over againſt the Windows of Princeſs *Sophia*'s Apartment, on which, by his Command, three *Strelitzes* holding up Petitions to her in their Hands, were left hanging.

On the 13th, Baron *Wonquarient*, the Imperial Envoy, was admitted to his firſt Audi-

ence. On the 17th, he, with the Envoys from *Poland* and *Denmark*, where ſplendidly entertained by the *Czar*. The War carried on by the *Ruſſians* this Year againſt the *Turks* proved ſucceſsful in every Quarter.

The *Turks* deſiring a Peace in the Year 1699, a Treaty was concluded with the King of *Poland*, the Emperor and the *Czar*, to which the States of *Venice* acceded; a thirty Year's Truce was agreed to. The *Czar* kept *Aſoph*, as well as the Forts he had taken on the *Black Sea*; and the Priſoners taken on both Sides being mutually releaſed, he was obliged to reſtore the Forts and Towns he had taken on the *Boriſthenes*.

General *Lefort* died on the 2d of *March*; he was a Native of *Geneva*. The *Czar* ordered him a magnificent Burial. On the 30th of *November*, in the ſame Year, died much regretted by the *Czar* and the whole Nation, General *Patrick Gordon*, in the 66th Year of his Age. He was viſited five Times by the *Czar* during his Sickneſs, who was preſent when he expired, and ordered a magnificent Interment for him.

On the 28th of *February*, 1700, Mynheer *Wrenhulſt*, Envoy from the *Dutch*, made his public Entry into *Moſcow*; and on the 23d of *March* had his firſt Audience. The *Czar*, in order to give a public Proof of his Regard for the Republic, treated its Repreſentative with great Reſpect.

No

No ſooner was the Truce with the *Porte* ratified and proclaimed, than the *Czar* gave Orders for all neceſſary Preparations for the War againſt *Sweden*, which, in his late travelling Expedition, he had concerted with the King of *Poland* and *Denmark*. From a long ſettled Diſlike and Antipathy to the old *Czariſh* ſtanding Army, the *Strelitzes*, tho' they were ſo formidable a Body as to conſiſt of thirty thouſand and above, yet on the very rejoicing Day for the Truce, he reſolutely broke and diſbanded them, giving Orders for their being forthwith diſperſed throughout the Empire, and from a certain Day, three were not to aſſemble on Pain of Death. They were not only to be excluded from his Majeſty's Service, but the Name of *Strelitzes* was to be obliterated for ever.

In leſs than three Months, he raiſed, enrolled, cloathed, armed and diſciplined ready for the Field, forty thouſand Foot, to be called Soldiers, and twenty thouſand Dragoons, which he ſpeedily effected by this lucky Expedient. In *Ruſſia* the Gentry, Nobility, and Grandees, nay all People of Fortune, according to an old Uſage, had dependant on them a Number of Servants, who, from Generation to Generation, continued a Property in their Families, and were for the moſt Part treated with very great Severity. The *Czar* declared all ſuch Servants free, without Exception whatſoever, if they entered into his Service; if not, they were to remain in their Thraldom. This

Scheme had the desired Effect; all the Colonels were emulous in disciplining their Regiments, among whom, none was so distinguished as Colonel *Alexander Gordon*, whose Skill and Diligence the *Czar* publickly applauded.

The next Care of his *Czarish* Majesty, after having modelled his Army according to the Practice of *Germany*, was to bring about a general Reformation among his Subjects, as well in their Manner of Living, as Dress, and also in their Police, and Judicial Courts. In all the Towns and Boroughs he established Magistrates, granting to them a similar Power to that of those in the same Rank in other Nations of *Europe*. The Power of *Waywodes* and Governors, hitherto almost arbitrary, was in Consequence much diminished.

He erected Colleges for the Instruction of Youth, and Academies for the Cultivation of Arts and Sciences. The Sons of the first Families he sent into foreign Armies and Fleets to form themselves for seven Years, at their own Expence when rich enough, when not he defrayed them. They were immediately put into Employment on their Return home, according to their respective Capacities for the Sea or Land-Service; or in the Police, those who had no Inclination for the two former.

He issued a Mandate that all Persons of what Degree soever, should have their Beards cut off; that both Sexes should dress in the *German*, *British*, or *French* Fashions; and never more, under

The Shaving of their Beards & Changing of their Dreſs, enforced by ſevere Laws on the RUSSIANS.

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under the Mulct of one hundred *Rubles* * for each Offence, were to make a public Appearance in the *Ruſſian* Habit. The only excepted, were the *Coſſacks*, *Calmucks*, and *Tartars*.

A Mandate was alſo publiſhed for Freedom of Converſation, and eaſy Acceſs to the Ladies, who had hitherto been ſo cloſely confined, that their neareſt Relations could ſee them but in their Huſband's Preſence, and that on ſome very particular Occaſions; and the more effectually to bring an amicable Intercourſe between the Sexes to bear, he inſtituted Aſſemblies with Muſic, Dancing, and other polite Amuſements, as Plays, *&c.*

The Fair Sex of all Ages, from their innate Love of Society, ſoon became Proſelytes to this agreeable Innovation, which put an End to an old and barbarous Cuſtom, to wit, the Matches were frequently made up by the Parents, without the young Peoples having ſo much as ſeen each other, ſo that very often the Bride turned out a lame, blind, or hump-backed Bargain to him condemned to marry her, who with Reaſon lamented his unhappy Fate.

The old Folks of *Ruſſia*, whoſe Nature is the ſame with thoſe in all other Climates, cried out againſt Practices unknown in their Youth; but all Oppoſition was in vain, wherefore Obedience or Puniſhment followed.

The *Ruſſian* Belles at firſt made but an aukward Appearance in their new Mode of dreſſing,

* A Coin, each Piece is worth 4*l.* 3*s.* Sterling.

finding themſelves pinched in with Lace, from looſely floating in large Gowns, hanging down to their Heels. But Cuſtom, the great Reconciler of all Things, ſoon made it become leſs offenſive, and, by Degrees, pleaſing to them.

The *Ruſſian* Nation had quite another Aſpect in a few Years, to the great Joy of the young Race. Foreigners were intermarried with the Natives. In this alſo the *Czar* gave the Example, by marrying to a Princeſs of *Wolfenbuttle* his Son the *Czarowich*; and his Nieces *Catharina* the eldeſt, to the Duke of *Mecklenburgh*, and *Anna* the younger, to the Duke of *Courland*, after whoſe Deceaſe ſhe ſince ſucceeded to the Imperial Throne of *Ruſſia*.

He did not neglect to introduce Trades and Manufactories. A tolerable ſort of Linnen Cloth had been long made among them. They made a conſiderable Progreſs in the Woollen Manufactories. As the Country in general produces Abundance of Wool, they make pretty fine Cloth, and of all Colours. Several Commodities, for which they had been formerly obliged to other Countries, are now ſupplied by themſelves.

War having been proclaimed againſt *Sweden* the 1ſt of *September*, *Czar Peter* determined to march at the Head of his Army conſiſting of twenty-eight Regiments of Foot, whereof his Guards were Part, with ſix thouſand Horſe-Militia, (his new-rais'd Dragoons being as yet not fit to take the Field.) His Artillery was compoſed

compoſed of twenty-four Mortars, and thirty-two battering Pieces. The general Orders to his Troops were to make an expeditious March to the River *Narva*; on the Eaſt Side of which Prince *Irubetſkoy* encamped within a ſhort League of the Town, between it and the Mouth of the River.

The *Swediſh* Horſe on the 12th attacked the Van Guard of the *Ruſſians* near *Ivanogrod*, but were repulſed, with the Loſs of ſome few killed and one taken Priſoner. In the Afternoon of the 14th, a ſtrong Party of Foot and Horſe ſallied from the Garriſon to attack the *Ruſſians*. Colonel *Gordon*, who had intrenched himſelf advantageouſly near *Narva*, marched againſt and obliged them to retire with Precipitation, with little Loſs on either Side.

Prince *Irubetskoy* marched up the 15th, and joined Colonel *Gordon* with the Corps under him, who, without Loſs of Time, began their Lines of Circumvallation and Countervallation, which, againſt the 1ſt of *October*, were completed with Redoubts at two hundred Toiſes diſtance. Lieutenant-General *Allart*, an experienced Engineer, had arrived at the *Ruſſian* Camp the 17th of *September*, whither he was ſent by King *Auguſtus*, as a fit Perſon to direct the Siege.

The *Czar*, at the Head of one and twenty Battalions of Foot, four Regiments of Horſe-Militia, together with the Artillery, Proviſions, and Ammunition, entered within the Lines on the 3d of *October*, having croſſed the *Narva*

on

on a ſtrong Bridge of Timber. He left on the other Side of it, in order to inveſt *Ivanogrod* at the ſame Time, three Regiments of Infantry, and four Squadrons of Horſe.

The reſt of the Army, amounting to about ten thouſand Foot, under the Command of General *Wied*, entered the Lines two Days after. The Trenches were opened in the Night. Under the Direction of Lieutenant General *Allart*, and the Duke of *Croy*, two different Attacks were carried on ſo expeditiouſly, that the Batteries, one of twelve Pieces of Cannon, two of ten each, played ſo vigorouſly on the 15th, that all the Cannon Balls and Bombs were conſumed before the End of *October*. The advanced Seaſon and Badneſs of the Roads, rendered it impracticable to be ſupplied ſoon enough with any of the wanted Materials.

To this great Miſtake of the *Ruſſians* not having been ſufficiently provided with Cannon Balls and Bombs, muſt be attributed their not being Maſters of the Place before the King of *Sweden* could come to its Relief, which was not till the 19th of *November*; and being favoured with a prodigious Fall of Snow, he formed his Army in two Diviſions, having given to General *Ottovelling* the Command of the Right Wing of his Army, he led himſelf his Left againſt the *Ruſſians*, which he imagined to be compoſed of their beſt Troops.

Succeſs ſo far crowned the two *Swediſh* Attacks, which were made much about the ſame Time, that they pierced the Lines. The

Ruſſians

Ruſſians abandoning the Lines on the King's Attack, the Victory was complete. The Duke of *Croy* (inveſted with the chief Command, whilſt the *Czar*, with the Generaliſſimo, went to *Ivanogrod*, to diſpatch Cannon-Balls, Bombs, and Troops from thence) after having done every Thing poſſible in his Situation, ſurrendered himſelf Priſoner of War, as did alſo Baron *Bloomberg*, Colonel of the Guards.

Altho' the *Swedes* on the right Hand Attack, had penetrated and forced into the Lines, yet until Night the *Ruſſians* maintained the Fight, and compelled them to retire towards their Left; and here the *Swedes*, after ſome Time, fired upon one another before they diſcovered their Error; and during this Confuſion, had the *Ruſſians*, who were ſufficiently numerous, attacked the *Swedes* with more Vigour, the Lawrel of Victory would have been ſnatched out of *Charles* the XIIth's Hands. But ſuch military Preſence of Mind, and Quickneſs of Execution, could not be expected from an Army new raiſed, (excepting the Regiment of Guards) and which had never engaged with diſciplined Troops before; add to this their Scarcity of good Officers.

So that every Thing properly conſidered, it is not ſo very wonderful as ſome Authors would have made it appear, that nine thouſand Veterans, as good Troops, and as well Officered as any in *Europe*, with a Hero at their Head, ſhould beat a raw, undiſciplined, unexperienced Army, tho' entrenched, and whoſe Numbers

Numbers did not exceed thirty four-thouſand; this Number has been greatly exaggerated by the romantic Diſpoſition of certain Writers, fond of the Marvellous. The King of *Sweden* having routed the Right of the *Ruſſian* Army, they fled in Crowds, Horſe and Foot, and having precipitately thronged the Bridge to get over the River, it broke under them, and many were drowned.

This fatal Accident having cut off the Retreat of the Left. The General Officers called a Council of War to debate on what were beſt to be done in this critical Situation. The Reſult was to make a Line of Circumvallation and Countervallation, as cloſe to the River on the Left, as could contain the Troops, and to ſtand the Attack of the *Swedes* the following Day, for that they had Time enough, and every Requiſite in order to complete their Reſolution before the Return of Light, it being then but Four in the Afternoon. Had this Scheme been followed, it is doubted that *Charles* the XIIth would have hazarded a ſecond Attack, not having above ſix thouſand Men able to engage ſince the recent Action.

But this vigorous Deſign was ſuperceded by an Adjutant from Prince *James Dolgoruky*, next in Command to the Duke of *Croy*, acquainting the Commander of the Left Wing, that a Treaty was entered into with the *Swedes*, who were to allow the *Ruſſians* to march home unſearched, without Arms, which, in other Terms, ſignifies to ſurrender at Diſcretion.

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The foreign Officers in the *Czar*'s Service, unanimouſly proteſted againſt ſo ignominous a Proceeding, but they were over-ruled by the *Ruſſian* Generals, devoid of Experience or Reſolution. They therefore retired to ſome Diſtance together, and altho' they knew they could not avoid being made Priſoners of War, yet this Motion ſerved as their military Proteſt againſt the infamous Conceſſions of thoſe unworthily conſtituted in Power above them.

When the *Ruſſian* Troops marched along the Front of the *Swediſh* Army drawn up in one Line to make the better Appearance, they were permitted to file off unarmed; but their Generals, Colonels, and ſome others were detained. They loſt above twelve thouſand killed in the Field and drowned in the Retreat; eighteen thouſand diſarmed marched off. The killed and wounded of the *Swedes* were about two thouſand five hundred.

The News of this Defeat was a Thunder-Stroke to the *Czar* at *Novogrod*, preparing to march with twelve Regiments of Foot and ſufficient Ammunition for carrying on the Siege; but ſoon recovering from his Amazement, he ſaid, "The *Swedes* may beat us for ſome "Time, but we ſhall learn from them to beat "in our Turn."

As ſoon as the *Czar* was relieved from all Apprehenſions of the King of *Sweden*'s making any farther Incurſion into his Territories, by ſhaping his March towards *Poland*, he ſet himſelf about raiſing and diſciplining a numerous Army;

Army; and publiſhed a Manifeſto of Invitation to all foreign Officers of any Nation, ſkilled in military Affairs, to come to his Service, where they ſhould receive large Salaries, and on their Arrival be advanced to a higher Commiſſion than that they had under the Power whoſe Service they had left to take on in his. Numbers repaired to him purſuant to the Invitation.

The *Dutch*, and other foreign Miniſters, employed their utmoſt Efforts in the Beginning of the Year 1701, to induce the *Czar* to hearken to Terms of Peace with the *Swediſh* Court, which their Monarch was the readier to give into, that he might thereby be enabled to wreak his Vengeance on *Auguſtus* King of *Poland*, whom he looked upon as the Inſtigator of the *Ruſſian* Hoſtilities againſt him.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty proved deaf to all Propoſals, unleſs the Province of *Ingria*, which had been rent from the *Ruſſian* Empire by the *Swedes* were firſt reſtored; and the Hopes of recovering this Province was the *Czar*'s real Motive for commencing War. He farther declared to the maritime Powers, that if they ſhould interfere in Behalf of his Foes, againſt him or his Allies, he would not only ſeize upon, but for ever deſtroy their Commerce in his Ports.

King *Auguſtus* having lately made himſelf Maſter of *Radziveloff* and *Birzen* in *Lithuania*, at the Head of the *Saxon* Troops, he and the *Czar* met at *Birzen* the 26th of *February*, where

where their former Alliance was renewed, and new Meaſures entered on. The King of *Poland* promiſed in Exchange for a ſtipulated Number of *Ruſſians*, to furniſh the *Czar* with ſo many diſciplined Germans. The two Monarchs ſojourned there till the Middle of *March*. The *Czar* ſpared no Pains to influence the *Poliſh* Nobility to ſecond their Views, and ſhewed them the Example, by ſending twenty thouſand Men to join the *Saxons* in *Lithuania*; but neither the *Czar* by offering to annex *Livonia* to the Crown of *Poland*, to maintain an Army in their Service, and advance a conſiderable Sum of Money, nor all the King's Arguments, could make the *Poles* break with the *Swediſh* Court. The *Czar* alſo ſent an Embaſſador to ſpirit up the *Danes* againſt the *Swedes*. But the King of *Denmark* judged it prudent to defer all Acts of Hoſtility againſt *Sweden*, until a more favourable Opportunity.

The *Ruſſian* Troops, under the Command of Marſhal *Sheremetoff*, obtained an Advantage over the *Swedes* at *Rauch*; of the latter a thouſand were killed and as many wounded; the *Ruſſians* were three to one. A Body of five thouſand *Ruſſians* reinforced *Staroſka Oginſky*, that he might be in a Condition of acting againſt Count *Sapeza*, who declared for *Sweden* in Conjunction with many diſaffected *Poles*.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty, with forty thouſand Men, marched into *Ingria*, and took two ſmall Places, which he enlarged and fortified, namely,

ly, *Jamgorod* and *Marunburgh*. Little Reſiſtance was made in thoſe Parts, there being but few *Swediſh* Troops there, they were moſtly with General *Slepenback*. Mad to be revenged for his Defeat at *Rauch*, he therefore attacked the *Ruſſians* under the Command of Marſhal *Sheremetoff*, and, tho' the Beginning of the Battle fought at *Stalgritz* (and from thence ſo called) went in Favour of the *Swedes*, they having taken ſome of the *Ruſſian* Cannon, the Day after turned againſt them, the Cannon was retaken. In a little more than an Hour's Diſpute, the *Ruſſians* poſſeſſed themſelves of all the *Swediſh* Artillery, and ſo cloſely preſſed General *Slepenback* and his Forces on every Side, that ſeeing the Battle loſt beyond Reſiſtance, he formed a Retreat in the beſt Manner he could with the Remains of his Army; nor did he halt till under the Cannon of *Penaw*. He ordered a Magazine of Proviſions to be burnt, that the Enemy might not get it.

About two thouſand *Swedes* were killed in this Action, and above a thouſand wounded and taken Priſoners, among whom were Count *Levenhaup* Adjutant-General, Lieutenant-Colonel *Horn*, and many inferior Officers. The Loſs of the *Ruſſians* was greater; their killed and wounded amounted to above four thouſand, but they did not loſe any Officers of Diſtinction. The *Czar*, well pleaſed with the News of this Victory, ſaid, "God be "praiſed, in this Battle we have beat the "*Swedes*

" *Swedes* two to one, and perhaps in a few " Years we ſhall fight them on a Par."

Affairs went badly in *Poland*, for King *Auguſtus* at the Head of thirty-two thouſand *Saxons* and *Poles*, was totally defeated at *Cletchoff*, by ſixteen thouſand *Swedes* under the Command of their King. The *Czar* however, that no Time might be loſt, ſent Orders to Marſhal *Sheremetoff* to march into *Ingria* and beſiege *Notlenburgh*, a ſtrong and important Fortreſs. On the 22d of *September*, the Marſhal inveſted it, and having made ſufficient Breaches againſt the 5th of *October*, Colonel *James Gordon* led on the Attack, but was driven back, and with no ſmall Loſs.

But the Commandant of the Place having neither Ammunition nor Men to hold out any longer, beat the Chamade for a Capitulation, in order to prevent his being expoſed to a third Aſſault. The Conditions of the Capitulation were, that Lieutenant-Colonel *Slepenback* and his Garriſon with their Pieces charged, ſhould march out through the Breach, Colours flying, Drums beating, four Pieces of Cannon with thirteen Charges for each, Bag, Baggage, their Wounded, Sick, their Wives and Children, with Proviſions for eight Days, and to be ſafely convoyed to *Narva*.

Theſe Succeſſes highly pleaſed the *Czar*, who, in order to encourage his Troops to behave well on all Occaſions, ordered proportioned Gratifications for all the wounded Officers and Soldiers. He then ordered the Breaches

to

to be made up, and ſome new Fortifications to be added, and changed its Name from *Notlenburgh* to *Sluſſelburgh*, which ſignifies the Key to that Country, in the *Ruſſian* Idiom.

Early in the Year 1703, his *Czariſh* Majeſty took the Field. In the Month of *March* he cantoned his Troops, and drew his Army together about the Middle of *April*; then marched to inveſt another important, tho' ſmall Place, which on the 14th of *May* ſurrendered; the Name of it is *Nyen-Chance*. Its beautiful Situation inſpired the *Czar* with a Notion of building a conſiderable City there, and well fortified; which Thought he ſoon put into Execution, and the City he was Founder of, is ſince known by the Name of St. *Peterſburgh*.

The Coin over all *Ruſſia* was altered this Year by Order of the *Czar*, which enabled him to pay the foreign Officers of all Ranks, who had entered into his Service in great Numbers. The *Ruſſians* growing every Day more warlike, obtained in the Month of *June* an Advantage over the *Swedes*, and another in *July*. In the latter Action, General *Cronſort* commanded the *Swedes*, and Marſhal *Sheremetoff* the *Ruſſians*. After ſo ſucceſsful a Campaign, the *Czar* having given Orders that the Priſoners were to march two by two before him through the City, made a triumphant Entry into *Moſcow*.

In order to prevent the intended Scheme of electing a new King of *Poland*, the *Czar* wrote a Letter

a Letter to the Republic, exhortatory to adhere to their lawfully elected Monarch, and dehortatory from voting for any other; declaring his Intentions to ſupport King *Auguſtus* with all his Power. In Conſequence of this Letter, fourteen of the forty *Senators*, who had ſubſcribed to dethrone *Auguſtus* the Day before, retracted. *Fineasky*, the Crown General, and the Crown Army, ſtill adhered to their Sovereign. The Confederates againſt him, known by the Title of the Confederacy of *Sandomir*, were then caballing at *Warſaw*.

A new Treaty of Alliance, offenſive and defenſive, was agreed on between King *Auguſtus* and the *Czar*. The Upſhot of the Conditions on both Sides was, that when the King of *Sweden*, who was the great Fomenter of this new Election, ſhould be forced out of *Poland*, *Auguſtus*, and the Republic of *Poland*, were to carry the War into *Sweden*, in Conjunction with the *Czar*, who by his Solicitations, at length influenced the King of *Denmark*, who ſince the Treaty of *Travendal*, had obſerved an exact Neutrality, and ſeemed now more inclinable to enter into their Views, when Circumſtances ſhould look more inviting. His chief Plea againſt acting immediately, was the King of *Sweden*'s great Army.

His Forces being conſiderably increaſed, and the *Czar* having made all requiſite Preparations during the Winter, opened the Campaign with the Sieges of *Narva* and *Derpt*. The former was inveſted by Land and Water, in the

the Beginning of *April*. In order to prevent Succours from getting into the Town, ſeveral Batteries were raiſed on the Side of the River; wherefore Admiral *De Prow* was forced to return to *Vibourg* with the thouſand Men, and the Proviſions for the Garriſon, which he had on board.

Nothing practicable was omitted by the *Swediſh* General, that they thought could induce the *Czar* to deſiſt from his Deſign on thoſe Towns; but they not having ſufficient Forces, made all their Efforts fail. Marſhal *Ogilvie*, an old experienced Officer, commanded the Siege of *Narva*, and Marſhal *Sheremetoff* directed that of *Derpt*; they were both carried on at the ſame Time.

But the *Czar* obſerved the almoſt inſuperable Difficulties to reduce *Derpt*, while the *Swediſh* Fleet, under the Command of Commodore *Loſcher*, was Miſtreſs of the *Pipus-Sea:* But the Commodore very imprudently had retired with his little Fleet, conſiſting of about fifteen ſmall Veſſels ſmartly equipp'd, within the River *Embach*. The *Czar*, in Conſequence, ordered a Croud of Boats to block up the Mouth of that River, and to ſtation themſelves behind the little Iſland of *Perkaſary*. On each Side of the *Embach* he ordered ſtrong Bodies of Foot to be poſted. By this Diſpoſition the *Swediſh* Ships were taken one after the other, in ſpite of the Commodore's Efforts to get to Sea, who plunged in Deſpair, and reſolved to be no longer a Beholder

holder of the national Calamity his own Folly had cauſed, he put Fire to the Powder in his Veſſel, and blew himſelf up with all therein.

This eaſy Victory was gained by the *Ruſſians* on the 4th of *May*, by which they became Maſters of the *Pipus* Sea, as well as of the *Embach*. A hundred *Swedes* were killed in this Affair, and five hundred made Priſoners; and not above twenty Men were loſt on the Side of the *Ruſſians*.

The Siege, after the Removal of the above mentioned Oppoſition, was carried on in a regular Manner, and on the 1ſt of *June* three regular Attacks were made. Colonel *Skyte* ſeemed to be prepared for, and bent upon a vigorous Defence, by his having ſet Fire to the Suburbs. The *Czar*, who alternately moved from *Derpt* to *Narva*, and from *Narva* to *Derpt*, giving his Orders for both Sieges, was Witneſs to the Attacks.

Narva, which had been inveſted for a Month before, was formally beſieged the 24th of *May*. The two Sieges advanced equally: Marſhal *Sheremetoff* having carried on his Attacks with ſo great Diligence, that by the 14th of *June* more than five hundred Bombs had been played on the Town from off his Batteries. The Beſieged made a Sally with Horſe and Foot the 22d, but were repulſed, and among the Priſoners was their Commander, Lieutenant-Colonel *Brant*. The Batteries fired more briſkly than before on the 29th, it being the *Czar*'s Birth-

Birth-Day, at which Time two thouſand Bombs had been thrown into the Place.

A great Part of the Town was ſet on Fire on the 3d of *July* in the Afternoon. They continued firing to the 7th on the *Ruſſian* Poſt from Batteries of twenty four Guns, and eleven Mortars. It was almoſt entirely deſtroyed, a Breach upwards of twenty Fathoms wide being made. The Batteries being augmented againſt the 11th, and a ſufficient Number of Troops ordered for the Aſſault; it began at nine o'Clock at Night, and continued till Morning. The *Ravelin* before the Port was taken by the Beſiegers.

The *Ruſſians*, among many other uſeful Acquirements, were indebted to Marſhal *Ogilvie* for their Knowledge of making Attacks by Night. A general Aſſault being reſolved on by the *Ruſſians*, the *Swediſh* Governor finding the Place no longer tenable againſt ſuperior Force, ſent out Propoſals for a Capitulation to Colonel *Ridder*, who then commanded in the Approaches. Terms being agreed on, *Derpt* ſurrendered on the 25th. The *Czar* entered the Town in the Afternoon, and received the Submiſſion of the Inhabitants. He promiſed them his Protection whether they remained in the City or went into the Country about their ſeveral Occupations, and an Exemption of Taxes for ſome Years. He publiſhed an Invitation to all the *Livonians* to ſubmit to the King and Republic of *Poland*.

Having

Having concluded all Matters at *Derpt*, he marched to *Narva* with ten thouſand Men; the Siege was carried on in three Attacks with the greateſt Vigour. Major-General *Chambers* commanded that againſt the *Baſtion* of *Honour*, Major-General *Wonwerden* the other againſt that of *Fame*, and Lieutenant-General *Stonebeck* the third, againſt that of *Victory*, with an Artillery of forty large battering Pieces, and twenty-four Mortars, which played inceſſantly till the 5th of *Auguſt*. A ſufficient Breach was then made in the Baſtion of *Victory*, and the whole Face of the Baſtion of *Honour* accidentally fell at the ſame Time with a Part of the Flank, Stone and Earth together, which made another ſufficient Breach.

It being very reaſonable to believe that the Governor would deſire to capitulate in conſequence, Marſhal *Ogilvie* invited him thereto by a very humane Summons, obſerving to him his preſent reduced Situation, and that he had no Room to hope for any Succours to relieve the Place. Major-General *Horn* did not return ſo civil an Anſwer as the Summons deſerved, "For that truly relying on the "Juſtice of his Cauſe, and the Protection of "God, he was determined to defend the "Place to the laſt Man."

Some Difference in Opinion having ariſen among the *Ruſſian* Officers in Chief, in regard to the reducing of the Place in the beſt Manner, the *Czar* deſired *Ogilvie* to act as he thought fitteſt. General *Horn* on his Side,

did all that Man could in employing Hands to repair the Breaches. But Marſhal *Ogilivie*, being reſolved to allow him no Time, the Troops being ready in the Approaches, about one o'Clock in the Afternoon of the 9th, the firing of five Guns was the Signal given for the Attack, which proved ſo ſucceſsful, that the *Ruſſians* were Maſters of the Place in leſs than three Quarters of an Hour.

The Governor and moſt of his Officers were ſurprized with the News at Dinner, and no way apprehenſive of ſuch an Alert, had only Time to ſpring one Mine, by which the moſt conſiderable Execution was done, having killed and diſabled above a hundred. The *Czar*, accompanied by Marſhal *Ogilivie* and others, a few Minutes after the Town was taken, rode through the Streets with his Sword in Hand, forbidding all further Execution on Pain of Death; and having met one of his Soldiers carrying a Chalice, and ſome other Pieces of Plate he had purloined from a Church, he commanded him to carry inſtantly back, and depoſit where he had found them; which Order there was no diſobeying. He commanded Safe-Guards to be poſted in all the Churches and beſt Houſes in the Town; ſo by his wiſe Adminiſtration, Peace was reſtored there before Night.

The Priſoners taken at *Narva* were, the Governor, Major-General Baron *Horn*, five Colonels, two Lieutenants-Colonels, five Majors, four Captains of Horſe, ſix Cornets, twenty

twenty-one Captains of Foot, five Captain-Lieutenants, three Quarter Maſters, twenty nine Lieutenants, thirty-three Enſigns, of the Artillery People thirty-ſix, and two-thouſand Soldiers. In the Attack there were not above a hundred killed.

On the Side of the *Ruſſians* about two hundred and fifty were ſlain, among whom was Colonel *Bernard*, much regretted, one Major, three Captains, a Lieutenant, and an Enſign. Several Officers and Soldiers were wounded, but they for the moſt Part recovered.

Marſhal *Ogilvie* ordered the Approaches to be levelled, and the Breaches to be repaired. His *Czariſh* Majeſty appointed the great Church for the *Greek* Service. The *Lutherans* were permitted to uſe the other Churches. The 15th of *Auguſt* was appointed for the Thankſgiving Day to God for having taken *Narva*. After the ſinging of the *Te Deum*, there were Bonfires throughout the Town, and a triple Diſcharge of the Army and Garriſon was preluded to by the Artillery according to Cuſtom. Then the *Czar*'s Favourite, *Alexander Menzekoff*, was declared General Governor of all *Ingria*. He and Major-General *Chambers* were inſtalled Knights of St. *Andrew*. This Order, in Honour to that Apoſtle, Patron of all *Ruſſia*, was lately inſtituted by his *Czariſh* Majeſty.

Marſhal *Ogilvie*, on the 17th, ſummoned *Ivanogrod* to ſurrender. The Governor finding the Place not defenſible for any Time, on ac-

count of the Numbers (above three thouſand) moſt of whom had flocked thither from the neighbouring Country at the Approach of the Enemy, and having ſcarce ſufficient Proviſion for ten Days, ſurrendered on the beſt Terms he could get, which, conſidering his Situation, were not hard. An immenſe Quantity of Artillery; Arms of all Sorts, Ammunition, and all manner of warlike Stores were found in theſe two Towns.

Altho' his *Czariſh* Majeſty made a glorious Campaign where he acted in Perſon, yet Matters had not gone ſo ſwimmingly with his Allies, who had been defeated in *Lithuania*, and beſides the Town of *Brizin*, loſt three thouſand Men. *Oginſky*, one of the defeated Generals, repaired to the *Czar*, entreating Succours to enable them to keep the Field. The *Czar* removed his Fears, having promiſed, beſides *Coſſacks*, to ſend ſixty thouſand *Ruſſians* to their Relief, and to ſupport his Ally *Auguſtus* in his Kingdom of *Poland*, who had been dethroned the 12th of *July* by the Confederacy of *Waſaw*, that in his Room elected *Staniſlaus Leſchinſky*, Woywode of *Poſen*. They were inſtigated to this Proceeding by *Charles* the XIIth.

The *Czar* returned to *Moſcow*, the Campaign being over. There were great Rejoicings among his Subjects, to whom all his military Trophies were ſhewn, to wit, eighty-four braſs Guns, a hundred and fifty Standards and

and Colours, and a great many Priſoners, whom he ordered to be treated with Humanity.

The *Swedes* made ſome fruitleſs Attempts againſt the Works of St. *Peterſburgh* and *Cronſtat*, and a Deſcent on the Iſland of *Ratuſary*, where they likewiſe failed.

All neceſſary Preparations for the enſuing Campaign being made, when the *Czar* had marched as far as *Pleſkow*, he there reviewed the greateſt Part of his Army; and commanded Marſhal *Sheremetoff* to march into *Courland* in Purſuit of General *Levenhaupt*, with fourteen thouſand Dragoons, four thouſand *Coſſacks*, and two thouſand Foot. The Latter having early Notice of the Former's March, he ſent to the Governor of *Riga*, General *Frolich*, to diſpatch to him, without Delay, all the Men he could ſpare from the Garriſon.

As ſoon as Marſhal *Sheremetoff* was informed of *Levenhaupt*'s Situation, a Council of War was called, in which it was reſolved to give him Battle; wherefore the Marſhal ſet forwards early next Morning, having a good Way to march before he could reach the Enemy. He made the neceſſary Diſpoſitions when he came in Sight of them, and ordered the *Coſſacks* (whilſt he attacked in Front) to attack them in Flank.

The Action began by the Cannon, as is uſual, between two and three in the Afternoon; then they proceeded to cloſe fighting, which laſted Half an Hour with Intrepidity on both Sides, till the *Coſſacks* had made their

Way through a Moraſs (which to the Enemy had ſeemed impracticable) and agreeable to their Orders, attacked the Enemy in the Flank of their Left, which ſo diſordered them, that they were obliged to give way; which, General *Levenhaupt* had no ſooner obſerved, than he ordered a Reinforcement from his *Corps de Reſerve* to march. They drove off the *Coſſacks*, and reinforcing his left Wing, renewed the Fight, which for ſome Time remained doubtful. The *Swedes* made ſo vigorous an Attack on the Right, that the *Ruſſians* gave way, abandoning three Pieces of Cannon to the Enemy.

Marſhal *Sheremetoff* having reinforced his whole Line, made ſo impetuous an Attack, that he drove the Enemy beyond their firſt Ground, who notwithſtanding continued the Battle with Order and Bravery. A *Ruſſian* Colonel of Dragoons, impatient for the Victory, forced into the Center of the Enemy at the Head of his Regiment, reſolved to attack them in Flank, Right and Left; but a Body of the Enemy's Reſerve attacked him ſo furiouſly, that they repulſed him with the Loſs of many of his Men, being himſelf dangerouſly wounded.

It was yet uncertain for whom Victory would declare, and continued ſo till towards Evening. Then General *Levenhaupt* formed the *Swediſh* Troops in one Line, and attacked with ſo much Impetuoſity, that he drove the *Ruſſians* Half a Mile out of the Field to where

where their Baggage was, to which Marſhal *Sheremetoff* being wounded, not a little contributed. This Battle was fought near a Gentleman's Seat called *Gemaurthoff*.

The *Swediſh* General wrote an Account of this Action to his Maſter, in which he informed him that the *Ruſſians* had repulſed the *Swedes* twice, tho' fighting with their uſual Intrepidity; and that his getting the Day was owing to the Superiority of his Foot over the Enemy's, and therefore entreated that his Majeſty would ſend, with all Speed, a ſufficient Reinforcement, that otherwiſe it would be impoſſible for him to keep the Field, the Enemy's Horſe by far exceeding his.

On the Side of the *Swedes* among the Slain, were one Colonel, three Lieutenant-Colonels, a Major, with ſeveral Captains. Among the Wounded were two Colonels, a Major, and many inferior Officers; of the Soldiery between three and four thouſand were killed and wounded. The Loſs on the Side of the *Ruſſians* was more conſiderable, having about thirty Officers killed, and as many wounded, and near five thouſand Soldiers killed or diſabled.

This Battle had laſted near five Hours. The *Swediſh* General did not dare to advance too far on the Enemy for fear of being ſurrounded, and therefore maintained his Ground in the beſt Manner he could. In the Night after the Battle he retired towards *Riga*, unable to

ſtand the *Ruſſians* next Day, ſhould they reſolve on another Attack.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty was highly pleaſed with the Account of the Battle, and finding the Loſs to be near on a Par, ſaid, "He could "always afford two, nay three to one." Several of the *Poliſh* Senators in King *Auguſtus*'s Intereſt, waited on the *Czar* at *Vilna*, where he was at the Head of ſixty thouſand Men. They were ſeized with Admiration in ſeeing his new-raiſed Army make ſo fine an Appearance, and go through their Diſcipline ſo well.

It was here the *Czar* publiſhed a Manifeſto, inviting and exhorting the Natives of *Poland* to adhere ſtedfaſtly to their lawful King, menacing Ruin to all who ſhould alienate their Allegiance from *Auguſtus* to *Staniſlaus*; declaring farther, that to the utmoſt of his Power he would ſupport the Former againſt all Oppoſition, and maintain the Republic of *Poland* in its Rights and Privileges againſt all Invaders.

The *Ruſſians* did what they pleaſed over all *Courland*, after the Battle of *Gemaurthoff*; for tho' General *Levenhaupt* kept the Field of Battle for ſome Time, his ſudden Retreat towars *Riga* was a manifeſt Proof of his being unable to act offenſively. The *Czar* thought proper to take that Duchy under his Protection, and ordered the Inhabitants to deliver to *Alexander Menzekoff*, whatever *Swediſh* Arms and Effects they were entruſted with. They at

firſt

firſt ſhewed ſome Repugnance to comply with this imperial Mandate.

Charles the XIIth, who held his Enemies too cheap, was entirely occupied in bringing the Coronation of King *Staniſlaus* to bear. The *Swedes* made alſo this Year ſome fruitleſs Attempts againſt *Peterſburgh*, and on the Iſland of *Ratuſary*, having been repulſed with Loſs. They were as unfortunate in *Courland*, where they loſt *Bautſk* and the Town of *Mittau*, General *Renn* having attacked and taken them: The Caſtle of *Mittau* indeed did not ſurrender till beſieged, nor till after the *Ruſſians* had thrown in an hundred and fifty Bombs, and made a large Breach with their Cannon. Then Colonel *Koring*, the *Swediſh* Commander, ſurrendered on honourable Terms the 4th of *September*.

By theſe Succeſſes the *Czar* was become Maſter of *Courland* and *Semigallia*, without the King of *Sweden*'s having made any Efforts to prevent them. The Deliberations of the Dyet of *Warſaw* engroſſed all his Attention; which the *Czar*, by his Agents, took care to entangle with as much Perplexity as poſſible. Having given his Orders for Major-General *Bower*'s commanding in *Courland*, and Marſhal *Sheremetoff*'s in *Livonia*, he marched towards *Grodno*, which he ordered to be fortified, and *Tycozin* alſo, where Magazines with Proviſions of all Kinds were eſtabliſhed.

His Party in *Poland* obtained ſeveral Advantages over the *Swedes* and Adherents to

Staniſlaus; poſſeſſed themſelves of ſeveral advantageous Poſts near *Warſaw*, by which Means he gave Laws to all *Lithuania*; wherefore the Confederacy of *Warſaw* maliciouſly reported that his *Czariſh* Majeſty's Intention was to annex it to *Ruſſia*, endeavouring thereby to induce the Senators of the Confederacy of *Sandomir* to come over and join them in the Defence of their Country, as they pretended.

The *Hettman* * *Mazepa*, who was in good Underſtanding with the King of *Sweden*, took Poſſeſſion of *Zamoiſe* at the Head of his *Coſſacks*. King *Auguſtus* not thinking it practicable for him to march the twelve thouſand Men he had in *Saxony* into *Poland*, left *Dreſden* incognito, accompanied but by three Perſons; and about the End of *October* paſſed thro' *Dantzick*, from thence he travelled by the *Friſchaff* to *Koningſberg*, and from thence to an advantageous Poſt occupied by the *Ruſſians*, called *Tycozin*. On his Arrival there, he wrote circular Letters to the *Czar*, and all the chief Abetters of his Party. From *Tycozin* he journied to *Grodno*, from *Grodno* he repaired to the *Ruſſian* Army.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty rode out to meet him, and after the uſual Ceremony on Monarchs meeting, preſented King *Auguſtus* with ſix Standards, which were a Part of the thirteen taken at the Bridge of *Praog*, on the *Viſtula*,

* A Chief General.

from

from the *Swedes* by the *Ruſſians*. Soon after his Arrival, the King of *Poland* inſtituted the Order of the *White Eagle*, with which he honoured ſeveral of the Senators, and ſome *Ruſſian* Generals, particularly *Alexander Menzekoff* and Marſhal *Ogilvie*, the *Czar*'s Favourites, to whom he propoſed, having ſeen how well diſciplined and officered the *Ruſſian* Forces were, to march and attack *Charles* the XIIth with their joint Armies; but the Severity of the Seaſon, with a conſiderable Fall of Snow, prevented all ſuch Projects. In and about *Grodno* and *Tycozin* Winter-Quarters were aſſigned to the Troops.

A great Council of *Poliſh* Senators having met at *Grodno*, King *Auguſtus* and the *Czar* aſſiſted thereat, and ſeveral important Articles relative to the Republic of *Poland* were regulated to the mutual Satisfaction of both Monarchs, and their Miniſters; wherefore an Alliance, offenſive and defenſive, between *Ruſſia* and *Poland*, was confirmed and ratified in a full Dyet on the 11th of *December*.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty having received Advice on the 12th of a Revolt in and about *Aſtracan*, accompanied by his Favourite *Alexander Menzekoff*, ſet out for *Moſcow*, eſcorted by his Guards and ten thouſand Dragoons, who were to be quartered on the Frontiers of *Poland*, in and near *Smolenſko*. The Command of this Army he delegated to Marſhal *Ogilvie* and King *Auguſtus*.

Charles

Charles the XIIth, notwithſtanding the Inclemency of the Seaſon, after he had King *Staniſlaus* crowned, and made an offenſive and defenſive Alliance with him, and the Confederates of *Warſaw*, upon whom he looked as the Republic; having received Advice that the *Czar* had taken a large Body of his Forces with him, and that the reſt of the Army was diſtributed in Quarters at ſome Diſtance from each other, he reſolved to march with Part of his Troops over the *Viſtula*, and to ſurprize the *Ruſſian* and *Saxon* Quarters. But King *Auguſtus* being informed of the Enemy's March and Deſign, aſſembled the Troops at *Grodno* from their Quarters, and put them in a Poſture of Defence, by ſtrongly entrenching, and having all neceſſary Proviſions and Forage.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Flyen*, with two hundred of the Guards, keeping always in Sight of the Enemy's Van, gave the King of *Poland* frequent Advice of their Movement, until the 24th in the Night, then he informed his Majeſty, to whom he repaired in the *Ruſſian* Camp, that the *Swediſh* Army was near. King *Auguſtus*, accompanied by Marſhal *Ogilvie*, paſſed on the 25th of *January* along the Front of the Lines, and had a full View of the Enemy by nine o'Clock in the Morning, formed in two Lines under the *Jeſuits Wood*.

The King of *Sweden* ſtopped there above an Hour to obſerve the Diſpoſition of the *Ruſſian* Army. He then attempted to croſs the River *Niemen*, which not appearing practicable

ticable at that Place, in order to find a more convenient Paſſage, he marched a League farther down to *Korhanova*, where he paſſed over. He marched up before the Lines of *Grodno* on the 26th. He drew up his Army about Eleven o' Clock, and appeared as if he intended to attack them.

His *Poliſh* Majeſty, with Marſhal *Ogilvie*, had made all neceſſary Diſpoſitions to give the *Swedes* a proper Reception; the King rode through all the Battalions and Squadrons, in order to encourage the Men, and obſerved to them that there was no retreating; therefore they muſt conquer or die. *Charles* the XIIth, all courageous as he was, when he had reconnoitred how ſtrongly the *Saxons* and *Ruſſians* were entrenched, and poſted to ſo great Advantage, not chuſing to riſk an Attack, marched away in the Afternoon, about Four o' Clock. By Orders of King *Auguſtus* Four thouſand Dragoons, with all the *Coſſacks*, were detached after them, under the Command of Lieutenant General *Renn*, to harraſs their Rear; which he did, and returned to the Camp before Night with a good deal of their Baggage and twenty-eight Priſoners. Marſhal *Ogilvie* gave Orders for ſtrengthening the Fortifications of the Town and Camp; which done he appeared quite eaſy, and ſeemed to deſire nothing more than a Viſit from his *Swediſh* Majeſty.

A Party of Lieutenant-General *Renn*'s Command fell in on the 29th with the Baggage of King

King *Staniſlaus*, wherein they found all his Plate, Kitchen Utenſils, and the medicinal Cheſt belonging to *Charles* the XIIth. The Guard, conſiſting of two hundred *Swedes*, had been totally routed, twenty-four were killed, and eight were made Priſoners.

By reaſon that ſo great an Army as that which was entrenched at *Grodno* could not act with ſo much Forwardneſs as might be expected, and that *Charles* XIIth would not attempt any Thing in that Part, the *Czar* diſpatched Orders to Marſhal *Ogilvie* to demoliſh the Fortifications, and to direct his March towards the Frontiers of *Ruſſia*, having previouſly ſunk what Guns he ſhould think himſelf not able to carry off. The Marſhal returned to the Frontiers of *Ruſſia* without meeting an Enemy.

After King *Auguſtus* had marched from *Grodno*, and had received the mortifying News of General *Shullembourgh*'s being defeated at the Head of a Body of his Troops by the Enemy's General *Renſhild*, at *Fravenſtadt* he gave up all Hopes, and was determined on a ſeparate Peace at any Terms; ſuch as he had unſucceſsfully treated for ſome Years before with the King of *Sweden*. Before he proceeded in this Affair, he ſent his Orders to *Dreſden*, to have *Patcul*, the *Czar*'s General and Plenipotentiary arreſted, whoſe Penetration and Abilities he dreaded, and was apprehenſive leſt he might diſcover to the Court of *Ruſſia* his intended Scheme. Prince *Galitzin*, the *Czar*'s Commiſſary at *Dreſden*, entered a Proteſt againſt

againſt King *Auguſtus* and his Miniſters, for having thus violated the Privileges of crowned Heads.

Early in the Month of *April* 1706, the *Czar* went on Board his Fleet, conſiſting of Twelve Men of War, Ten Brigantines, Ten great Gallies, Fifty ſmall ones, Ten Branders, and Ten Bomb-galleys; they lay near the Iſland of *Ratuſary*, where he expected to have been attacked by the Enemy's Fleet, which conſiſting of Two Ships of War under the Command of Admiral *Ankerſtiern*, lay before *Revel*; but they having thought otherwiſe, his Majeſty ſailed in a light Frigate to *Peterſburgh*; and when he had given all neceſſary Directions for advancing the Works of that Place, he went to *Smolenſko*, where he arrived the 29th; from whence he went to review his Army at *Mohilow*, where it was then encamped, and was daily augmented by new Recruits.

After the Victory obtained at *Fravenſtadt*, by the *Swediſh* Troops under the Command of General *Renſhild*, *Charles* the XIIth, as ſoon as joined by him, thought this a favourable Opportunity to march into *Saxony*, whither he went directly, and left in *Poland* only ſix thouſand *Swedes* under the Command of General *Marderfelt*, with fifteen thouſand *Lithuanians* and *Poles*, whom the *Waywode* of *Kiow* and *Sapega* commanded.

On the *Czar*'s firſt Information of the King of *Sweden*'s having entered *Saxony*, and having left

left ſo ſmall a Number of *Swedes* in *Poland*, he detached *Menzekoff* (lately promoted to the Dignity of Prince of the *Roman* Empire) with ten thouſand *Ruſſians*, beſides *Coſſacks*; who, having joined the King of *Poland* at *Peterkaw*, where he was encamped with five thouſand *Saxons* and eight thouſand Poles, the latter under the Command of *Fineaſky* the Crown General; it was reſolved in a Council of War to give the Enemy Battle.

But King *Auguſtus*, conſcious to himſelf of the private Terms he had offered for a ſeparate Peace, and terrified at the King of *Sweden*'s being in the Middle of his Country, did not ſeem ſo forward in concurring with the Reſolution, which was however carried. General *Brant*, and *Fineaſky* the Crown General marched towards the Enemy with the *Poles*. Prince *Menzekoff* and the King of *Poland* followed with the *Saxon* and *Ruſſian* Troops, and within two Leagues joined the Crown General at *Seaſtadt*. The Army halted next Day, and got Intelligence of the Enemy's being encamped and poſted to great Advantage near the River *Arſona*, on the other Side of the Town, and there determined to wait the Event.

The King of *Poland* had given a private Intimation of his Deſign; and ſent Advice alſo not to wait their coming up to the *Swediſh* General, who paid no Attention thereto. Wherefore his Majeſty went with ſome of the Generals to view the Enemy. The *Calmucks* and *Coſſacks* under Prince *Menzekoff* marched

up

up to the Camp of the *Poles* and began to pickeer with them; then the whole *Ruſſian* Army marched within half a League of the Enemy. The reſt of the Day was ſpent in getting over a Bridge.

They marched the next Day in Order of Battle ſtrait upon the Enemy's Front. The Firing of Three Guns was the Signal of the Attack, which was anſwered by the Enemy with Two. The Enemy's Army was under the Command of General *Marderfelt*. The *Woywode* of *Kiow* commanded the right Wing, conſiſting of *Poles*; and Count *Sapega* the Left, conſiſting of *Lithuanians*. The *Poliſh* Forces, on the other Side, were commanded by King *Auguſtus*, who was poſted on the Left, Prince *Menzekoff* on the Right, and General *Brant* in the Center. The firſt Lines was compoſed of *Saxons* and *Ruſſians*; the ſecond of *Poles* only, whom the Crown General *Fineaſky* commanded.

The Battle went ſo ſucceſsfully on for the *Czar*, and his Allies, about Three o' Clock in the Afternoon, that the right Wing of the *Swedes* were driven behind their Waggons in leſs than Half an Hour. Their Body fought with great Reſolution till near Six; for not above three thouſand of them remained alive. Twenty Standards ſubmitted on the Left to King *Auguſtus* without ſtriking a Blow; thoſe who ſtood were cut to Pieces, or taken Priſoners. *Sapega* and the *Woywode* of *Kiow*, with a few

few who accompanied them, got off in the Evening.

Above an hundred Standards and Colours were taken in this Action, with all the Artillery and ſix thouſand Waggons, in which were all the Baggage and Ammunition. The Town, with ſome hundreds who retired thither from the Battle, ſurrendered next Day at Diſcretion. Among the *Swediſh* Priſoners, beſides their Commander in Chief, were four Colonels, five Lieutenant Colonels, upwards of thirty Majors, Captains, and under Officers in Proportion; they amounted in all to two thouſand nine hundred and ſix, (not including the Wounded). Two thouſand remained in the Field. The *Saxons* and *Ruſſians* killed and wounded were near three thouſand. All the *Poliſh* Priſoners were ſent to the Crown General *Fineaſky*, by King *Auguſtus*, who were diſmiſſed on promiſing they never would take up Arms againſt the Republic or their Sovereign, General *Marderfelt*, on his giving Parole that General *Adam Weid* ſhould be exchanged for him, was alſo releaſed.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty was ſo well pleaſed with the Account of this Victory, that he made the General a Preſent of his Picture ſet with Diamonds; to the Colonels, and thoſe under them Preſents ſuitable. Prince *Menzekoff* propoſed to King *Auguſtus* to march without Loſs of Time their victorious Troops into *Saxony*, and there attack the *Swediſh* Monarch; againſt which Deſign, for the Reaſons above-mentioned,

mentioned, he ſtarted every Difficulty he could think of. For, before the late ſucceſsful Battle of *Caliſh*, he had given full Powers to Baron *D'Imhoff* and M. *Finſten*, his two Commiſſaries, to conclude with the King of *Sweden* a definitive Treaty of Peace for him; and that in Favour of *Staniſlaus* he was ready to renounce the Crown. They tranſacted the Affair with great Diligence; for, having received their Powers the 18th of *Auguſt*, it was terminated the 25th of *September* following, containing but three Articles; the principal of which was, *Auguſtus*'s renouncing for ever the Crown of *Poland* in Behalf of *Staniſlaus*.

The unfaithful Meaſures of King *Auguſtus* obliged his ſincere Ally the *Czar* to alter his Plan. From the Confines of *Poland*, where he was with his Army commanded by General *Ogilvie*, he wrote a Letter to the Republic of *Poland*, in which he exhorted them not to deſpond, for that he would protect them againſt the King of *Sweden*, and all other Enemies of theirs; that King *Auguſtus* had ſhamefully abandoned them; and inſiſted on their not acknowledging *Staniſlaus* for their Sovereign. He received Anſwers in conſequence from the Chiefs of the *Poliſh* Republic that they never would, and moſt ſubmiſſively thanked him for the generous Offer of his Protection.

The *Czar* was exceſſively piqued againſt *Auguſtus* for making a ſeparate Peace; and more ſo, for delivering up to the King of *Sweden*,

den, *Patcul*, his Ambaſſador and General. He was deſirous of an *Interregnum*, during which Time the Primate governs; and that *Auguſtus*, as well as *Staniſlaus*, ſhould be declared incapable of filling the Throne of *Poland*. Although the *Poliſh* Senators near the *Czar* inclined that Way, yet they would do nothing from themſelves, but remitted the Whole to the Council of *Limberg*; where, in *February* 1707, moſt of the Senators met. Prince *Wieſnowtiſky*, Great General of *Lithuania*, declared about this Time for *Staniſlaus*, on a Promiſe after *Sapega*'s Death, of ſucceeding to the Command of Great General. He treated the *Ruſſians* every where as Enemies, having joined his Forces to thoſe under General *Levenhaupt*.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty was the more offended at *Wieſnowtisky*'s Proceeding, becauſe it was through his Imperial Intereſt that he was promoted to the Command of the *Lithuanian* Army, beſides occaſional large Remittances: For which, and other Reaſons, with the Concurrence of the Senators, the *Czar* had *Oginsky Staroſta* of *Samitia*, appointed Great General of *Lithuania*. *Wieſnowtisky*, being no longer ſupplied with Money by the *Czar*, was forſaken by moſt of the Troops under him; they flocked to *Oginsky*, who continued true to his Truſt, and therefore was conſtantly ſupplied by the *Czar*.

During the Winter, his *Czariſh* Majeſty took every Step neceſſary for recruiting and maintaining

taining a numerous Army, in order to be able to oppoſe the *Swedes* wherever they ſhould attack him; by which Means, in the Beginning of the Year 1707, the *Czar* had aſſembled in *Poland* thirty thouſand Dragoons, and forty thouſand Infantry, beſides what he expected from other Quarters. Having received certain Intelligence that *Charles* did not intend to leave *Saxony* ſoon, he diſpatched to *Limberg* (where the great Council was ſoon to meet) Prince *Gregory Dolgorusky* his Miniſter. There he found all the Senators inclining to his Maſter's Views: And in conſquence, after mature Deliberation on the 11th of ſaid Month, the Throne was declared vacant; and they appointed a Dyet in the enſuing Month of *May* to be held a *Lublin*.

The Provincial Dyets were ordered to aſſemble in the mean Time, to which thoſe of the oppoſite Party were invited to accede, with Aſſurance of Security for their Perſons. Letters were diſpatched by the Primate to foreign Powers, entreating that they ſhould acknowledge none other for King of *Poland*, but him whom all the free Orders of the Republic ſhould elect. After thoſe neceſſary Steps, a Letter from the *Czar* to the Council was preſented by *Fineasky*, the Great General of the Crown. The Council was ſo well pleaſed with the Integrity and Candour of the *Czar*'s Declaration in their Behalf, that they thought it incumbent on them to ſend a Deputation to him at *Zolkiow*, (where he then was) with their

their moſt ſincere and grateful Thanks for his Imperial Benevolence towards them, and prayed the farther Indulgence of his Advice in their preſent critical Situation.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty, the *Czarowich*, Prince *Menzekoff*, &c. arrived at *Limberg* a few Days after. The *Czar* was there received with all the Marks of Reſpect, Gratitude, and Confidence, by the Senators. At their Requeſt he aſſiſted at their Deliberations, and nothing was omitted by them that could induce the Senators to declare for the Royal Confederacy of *Sandomir*, and confirm it in this Council. And that all their Reſolutions ſhould appear to emane from that Confederacy, the Reſolution to declare the Throne vacant was carried on in the Affirmative; and Matters were brought to ſuch a Concluſion as to make People believe that the greateſt Harmony was to ſubſiſt between the Council of *Limberg* and the *Czar*; who, thinking he might rely on an Act ſigned by eighteen Senators, Primate *Sczembick*, and *Fineasky* the Great General of the Crown, returned with the *Czarowich* and *Menzekoff* to *Zolkiow*.

Being informed there of the malicious Reports ſpread abroad of his Intention to propoſe his Son as a Candidate for the Crown of *Poland* to the Dyet at *Lublin*, he ordered him to repair to *Moſcow*; and, for a farther Conviction of his diſintereſted Views, ordered eight hundred thouſand Florins to be paid for the Support of the *Lithuanian* and *Poliſh* Troops.

After

After which he gave Orders to his Army to take different Routs, as well for their more eaſily ſubſiſting as protecting the Dyet from any Inſult of the Enemy.

Marſhal *Sheremetoff*, with thirty thouſand Men, had Orders to go into the *Woywodeſhip* of *Cracow*, where he was ſomewhat aſtoniſhed at finding himſelf joined by fifteen hundred *Ruſſians*, who the Year before had been ſent Auxilaries to *Auguſtus* into *Saxony*. It would have highly pleaſed *Charles* the XIIth, now playing the abſolute Maſter in *Saxony*, to have made them Priſoners of War. But Colonel *Rentzel* defeated his Wiſh, by withdrawing in Time from *Saxony*. He continued his Route through the Emperor of *Germany*'s Territories under Imperial Colours. In Recompence for this Service, *Rentzel* was immediately made Major-General, and ſoon after promoted to the Rank of Lieutenant-General by the *Czar*.

Colonel *Schults* with his own Regiment, and about three thouſand *Calmucks* and *Coſſacks*, attacked the notorious Partiſan *Smegilsky* at *Lubrinska*, and, after an Engagement of about two Hours, he totally routed him, having ſlain and made Priſoners about two thouſand of his Men; tho' not above three hundred were loſt on his Side. After this ſucceſsful Exploit, *Schults* carried Deſtruction through all the Lands belonging to the Adherents of *Staniſlaus*.

Bichow

Bichow, in *Lithuania*, after a vigorous Defence, was obliged to ſurrender at Diſcretion. The *Czar* ſent the Garriſon, conſiſting of three thouſand Men, with an hundred Pieces of Cannon, Ammunition, and other warlike Stores, to *Moſcow*. Lieutenant-General *Renn* marched towards *Dantzick*, which had declared for *Staniſlaus*, with a Body of ten thouſand Dragoons: He ſent Propoſals to the Magiſtrates of that City, accompanied with Threats of Military Execution, if they ſhould refuſe their Compliance thereto. But they, not at all intimidated by ſo bullying a Meſſage, prepared for a reſolute Defence; and *Renn*, having no Artillery, thought proper to ſheer off, and for the Preſent to deſiſt from his high Demands.

Charles XII. ruled all this while as abſolute in *Saxony* as in his own Dominions; and his *Czariſh* Majeſty, ſolely intent on ſtarting a Competitor againſt *Staniſlaus*, (and whoſe Right to the Crown of *Poland* ſhould be as juſtifiable as his) ſent Prince *Kurakin* Ambaſſador to the Pope, in order to ſolicit his not acknowledging *Staniſlaus*, in conſequence of King *Auguſtus*'s Abdication; and, to influence his Holineſs the more, had notified to him by this Prince *Kurakin*, his peculiar Favour to the *Roman Catholics* in his Empire, with ſome Hints of his ſeeming to wiſh the Church of *Rome* and the *Greek* united, which ſucceeded: but other political Negotiations with *England* and *Holland* not turning out as he expected, relative

relative to the Affairs of *Poland* and the defeating of *Charles* XIIth's Projects, he reſolved to march thirty thouſand of his beſt Troops into *Swediſh Pomerania*; but the King of *Pruſſia*'s Leave for marching through Part of his Territories was requiſite, which could not be obtained on Account of the preſent critical Situation of Affairs. The *Czar*'s next Expedient was to prevail on the *Poliſh* Senators to aſſemble the Dyet at *Lublin*; and for that End had an *Univerſalia* publiſhed, encouraging them to meet, and promiſing Safety to their Perſons, *&c.* that they might deliberate with him on the moſt effectual Means for the Good of the Republic. But *Wieſnowitsky*, and others, cauſed a *Counter-Univerſalia* to be publiſhed, declaring againſt the *Czar*'s dangerous Views on *Poland*, and the Grievances the Inhabitants thereof had undergone from his Troops; and that it was the true national Intereſt to adhere to *Staniſlaus*, ſeconded by the ineſtimable and victorious King of *Sweden*; and that certain Ruin would be the Conſequence of any farther Connections with *Ruſſia*'s Monarch.

The *Czar* ſent Orders from *Zolkiow*, where he was in Quarters, to his Generals, to ſpeedily protect all Eſtates and Lands belonging to the Confederates of *Sandomir*; and ſent a Promiſe to the Dyet, which he had met the 22d of *May* at *Lublin*, that he would reſtore to their Republic the Town of *Bichow*, with all he had taken from thence and carried to *Moſcow*. The

Dyet appeared ſomewhat pleaſed at this Promiſe. Soon after his *Czariſh* Majeſty, accompanied by his Guards, repaired to *Lublin*, whither he was accompanied by the *Pruſſian* and *Daniſh* Ambaſſadors. Count *Bereſin* attended him alſo; he was ſent by Prince *Ragotzky*, Chief of the *Hungarian* Malecontents, to ſolicit Aſſiſtance in Money and Men, and make an Offer at the ſame Time of the *Hungarian* Crown to his Son, the *Czarowich*. But the generous *Czar*, averſe from giving any Umbrage to his Ally the Emperor, refuſed to furniſh any Succours, and the Offer of the Crown.

Soon after his Arrival at *Lublin*, the *Czar* having penetrated into the Sentiments of moſt of the Members of the Dyet, perceived there was no depending on them; therefore thought it not improper to have theſe three Propoſitions laid before them by Way of ſounding.

I. That the Throne of *Poland* ſhould be declared *vacant*, and the Election of a King proceeded to.

II. That a new Oath ſhould be formed, by taking of which, the Senators ſhould be bound to adhere to him faithfully and inviolably.

III. That, puſuant to ſuch their Engagements, they ſhould give Security for their adhering firmly to their Alliance.

Their many Equivocations and Evaſions, having proved to the *Czar* that he had no Reſource

ſource left in regard to them but his own Force to depend upon; he choſe rather to continue the War in *Poland*, than to move it into his own Country: And, having Armies in moſt Provinces of *Poland*, he diſpatched Orders to his Generals, to watch cloſely the King of *Sweden*'s Movements; to diſpute all Paſſes with him, and deſtroy all the Bridges, eſpecially thoſe on the *Viſtula*: But, when unable to form any farther Oppoſition to the Enemy, to devaſt the Countries through which his *Swediſh* Majeſty was to paſs, that he might be baulked of finding any Subſiſtence.

Theſe Orders were more than enough for the *Calmucks*, *Ruſſians* and *Coſſacks*, but too ready to plunder; they carried off all that was valuable, and burnt the Remainder. They deſtroyed all Ranks, and cauſed ſo general an Outcry, that Count *Danhoff* carried Complaints to his *Czariſh* Majeſty againſt his Troops, who ſpared not even their Friends, and marked their Way by undiſtinguiſhed Deſolation.

To which Complaint the *Czar*'s Anſwer was, that the equivocating and evaſive Conduct of the Dyet had compelled him to ſuch violent Proceedings, which he judged to be the moſt efficacious Method to drive away, or haraſs his Enemy; being convinced at laſt, that nothing but his own Power was to be relied on: Yet, that he was nevertheleſs reſolved to continue his Protection to thoſe faithful Senators who had entered into an Alliance

with him; but with this Proviſo, that they ſhould perſevere againſt acknowledging *Staniſlaus* for their King.

Charles XII. paid a very extraordinary Viſit this Year to King *Auguſtus* at *Dreſden*, tho' he had been the chief Agent againſt him. As ſoon as the *Czar* was informed that the *Swediſh* Monarch had already entered *Poland*, he repaired to *Warſaw*, and there called a Council of War; where, having given all neceſſary Orders, he delegated the Command of his Army to Marſhal *Sheremetoff*, and ſet out for *St. Peterſburgh*, determined, in order to ſwallow up the *Swediſh* Forces and their Monarch at once, to bring together moſt of the beſt *Ruſſian* Troops.

In the mean Time the *Ruſſian* Generals behaved with great Conduct, diſputed each Paſs with the *Swedes*, eſpecially thoſe on the *Viſtula*; who, finding it impoſſible to be paſſed, on account of the Bridges being broken down, were quartered in *Royal Pruſſia*, near to *Dantzick*, bearing from *Warſaw* to *Thorn*. Betwixt *Kaven* and *Urſa* the *Ruſſian* Infantry were quartered; the Dragoons from *Tycozin* to *Grodno* and *Novogrodeck*, and from their Situation obliged to have a ſharp Look-out. The Crown-Army, at *Uloclowa* in *Black Ruſſia*, under the Command of their Great General *Fineaſky*; but were ſo poſted that the *Ruſſians* could receive no Aſſiſtance from them.

The *Czar* ſent ſome Troops into the *Ukraine*, that he might not be ſurprized on that Side

Side by the *Turks*, who had juſt ſent an Ambaſſador to congratulate the King of *Sweden* on his Succeſſes, and King *Staniſlaus* on his Acceſſion to the Throne of *Poland*. Having paſſed the *Chriſtmaſs* Holidays at *St. Peterſburgh*, an Expreſs came to him from Prince *Menzikoff* and Marſhal *Sheremetoff*, with certain Advice that the King of *Sweden*, favoured by the Ice, was in full March towards *Lithuania*, having croſſed the *Viſtula*.

At the firſt Diſcovery of the Enemy's Motions, the *Ruſſians* quitted their Quarters above-mentioned, and where they marched ſet the whole Country in a Blaze, ſo that nothing but a moving Column of Flames and Smoke was to be ſeen. The *Czar*, without Loſs of Time, poſted away to *Grodno*, determined to diſpute the Paſſage of the River *Niemen* there. Having ordered his Generals to avoid by all Means engaging the Enemy, unleſs with a viſible Advantage, he gave Directions for the Bridge at *Grodno* to be immediately fortified, the Command of which important Poſt, with a Corps of two thouſand Men, was conferred on Brigadier *Mansfield*.

Notwithſtanding all intervening Difficulties the *Swediſh* Monarch ſtill advanced, accompanied only by ſix hundred of his Troops, and attacked the *Ruſſians* poſted at the Bridge with ſuch Impetuoſity, that on the very firſt Onſet he beat them off, and compelled them to retreat precipitately under the Walls of *Grodno*.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty, who was then in the Town of *Grodno*, being informed that the whole *Swediſh* Army were prepared to inveſt it by Break of Day, retired towards *Wilna* in the Night, with his Favourite Prince *Menzekoff*. He was ſo diſſatisfied with Brigadier *Mansfield*'s Conduct, in having let himſelf be beat from the Bridge by ſo few, in Compariſon with his ſuperior Number, that he ordered him to be put under Arreſt, and intended to have him tried by a Court-Martial. But *Mansfield*, inſtigated by his Dread of the Conſequence, found Means of eſcaping to the Enemy; whom he informed of the Situation, and Schemes of the *Ruſſians*, as far as his Knowledge reached.

In the mean Time *Czar Peter* diſpatched Orders to Prince *Repina* and General *Bower*, then quartered in the moſt ſouthern Parts of *Lithuania*, near *Wolinia*, to march forthwith towards *Minſky* and *Potosky*, in order to join him, in caſe of Neceſſity. He ſent Orders likewiſe to the Troops in *Courland* and *Livonia* to march towards *Polozok* for the ſame End. Having diſcovered the *Swediſh* Monarch's Reſolution of purſuing him cloſe, and moving the War into the Center of *Ruſſia*, he acted as cautious as the other was precipitate. He marched from *Wilna*, and quartered his Army near the *Boriſthenes*, between *Orſa* and *Mohilow*.

From this Situation he had a ſure Retreat to *Meiziſlaw*, and from thence to *Smolensko*. The

Calmucks

Calmucks and *Coſſacks* having left nothing but Ruin and Deſtruction behind them, the King of *Sweden* found himſelf under a Neceſſity of diſperſing his Troops into Quarters; where, diſſabled from marching, through Want of Forage and all other Neceſſaries for Subſiſtence, they continued till *May* following.

Orders were ſent from the *Czar* to Lieutenant General *Bower*, who had deſtroyed moſt Places in *Swediſh Livonia*, and blown up the Fortifications of the Town of *Derpt*, to march with the Troops under him through the Frontiers of *Courland* and *Lithuania*, to join at *Smolenſko* the main Army, or at what other Place might be its Deſtination. Brigadier *Gordon* was promoted to the Rank of Major-General, for the Check he had kept Prince *Wieſnowitſky* under, frequently harraſſing and cutting down his Troops; he obliged him to retreat ſhamefully from Place to Place, tho' his Purſuer *Gordon* had but three Regiments of Infantry, and one of Dragoons.

The Great General of the Crown, *Fineasky*, was in *Black Ruſſia* all this Time, furniſhing not the leaſt Aſſiſtance to the *Czar*; which indeed, from Circumſtances, he hardly could; he, however, thundered out *Univerſalias* againſt *Staniſlaus*, and all who adhered to him, proclaiming them Traitors to their Country, *&c.* and, as the *Ruſſians* had done, exacted Contributions from Friend and Foe indiſcriminately.

As ſoon as the *Czar* had croſſed the *Boriſthenes* with Part of his Army, he marched to *Poloczk*, joined by twenty thouſand Recruits. His Intention was to go from thence to *St. Petersburgh*, in order to reconnoitre the Condition of his Fleet; and as he was juſt going to ſet out on his Journey, he was ſeized with a Dyſentery, which Sickneſs was attributed to the great Fatigue he had undergone. Wherefore, after he had given the Command of the Army to Marſhal *Sheremetoff*, and other Generals, with whatever Directions and Cautions that to him appeared neceſſary, he repaired to *Smolensko*.

Although the *Ruſſian* Fleet was not as yet in a Condition to act againſt Admiral *Wachtmuffer*, lying with a Fleet of thirty-ſix Men of War at *Revel*, Captain *Zenavin* made a Deſcent into *Finland*, and attacked *Borgo*, a ſmall Place; which, having taken, plundered, and committed to the Flames, he carried off moſt of the young People to Slavery. Encouraged by this Succeſs, he attacked *Biornco* and other ſmall Iſlands, which he treated alike.

Count *Bois*, Vice-Admiral, took about the ſame Time, with his Gallies, ſeveral Barks and Veſſels laden for *Stockholm* with Proviſions; but he made them ſteer another Courſe to *St. Peterſburgh*. It is imagined that the *Czar*'s Recovery from his late Indiſpoſition was forwarded by theſe repeated, tho' intrinſically, ſmall Advantages. He was ſoon after obliged to repair to his Capital, in order to appeaſe

appeaſe a Sedition of the *Doncoſſacks*, excited by *Bolawin*, a Colonel, who (as it was generally believed) had been induced thereto by *Mazepa*, *Hettman* * of the *Ukraine Coſſacks*, that the *Czar* might be put under a Neceſſity of dividing his Forces; which Effect it in Part produced, without any farther Conſequence: for *Bolawin*, finding the People under him were againſt his Deſign when known, and that they wanted to deliver him up Priſoner to the *Czar*, ſhot himſelf. The Traitor's Head was ſent to *Moſcow*. Orders were immediately diſpatched to Prince *Dolgoruky* to repair with the Forces under him to the Army.

Charles XII. having got Advice that *Mazepa*, the *Hettman*, with a Body of thirty thouſand *Coſſacks* were in Motion, to join twelve thouſand of the *Czar*'s Forces under the Command of General *Goltz*, at *Bowſow*, where he was entrenched; and from whence, having obſerved their Movements, he marched with an Intent to attack the *Swedes*. But the *Hettman*, influenced by a late good Underſtanding with the King of *Sweden*, appeared rather recreant than otherwiſe.

General *Goltz* very prudently broke up, and retired towards *Mohilow*, as the *Swedes* advanced. At that Place four thouſand Dragoons, under the Command of Major-General *Flough*, with ſome *Calmucks* and *Coſſacks*, whoſe conſtant Occupation was to conſume

* General.

or deſtroy all Proviſions in the Enemy's Way, joined General *Goltz*.

Notwithſtanding the intended Impediments, by their Devaſtation, *Charles* haſtened his March in order to defeat this gathering Army, which cautiouſly retreated before him, breaking down Bridges, and executing every Thing that could delay his Movements. But, as ſoon as General *Goltz* was joined by Prince *Repina*, General *Renn*, and Marſhal *Sheremetoff*, with the Forces under each, a Council of War was called, in which it was determined to wait and give the Enemy Battle at *Holowſin*.

Charles XII. who ſtill advanced, having perceived that the collected *Ruſſians* now formed a conſiderable Body, and were reſolved to give him Battle, moved towards them with the greateſt Part of his Cavalry, and as much of his Infantry as could be brought up. He attacked their Lines on the 16th of *July*, and after a hard-diſputed Engagement of above two Hours, the *Ruſſians* being forced to retire, abandoned ſix Pieces of Cannon. The *Swediſh* Monarch did not chuſe to purſue the Victory, becauſe it had coſt him very dear. The *Ruſſians* had the Precaution to ſend away all their Baggage and Proviſions before the Engagement.

Two Days after the Affair of *Holowſin* the *Czar* joined his Army, and ſeemed quite ſatisfied with the Behaviour of his Troops, though diſcomfited. *Charles* remained ſome Time in the Neighbourhood of *Mohilow*, to refreſh the

the Troops with him after ſo fatiguing a March, and to wait the Arrival of the reſt of his Army. Finding himſelf pinched, in regard to Proviſions, Orders were diſpatched to General *Levenhaupt*, then in *Courland*, to march with all Expedition to join him with what Ammunition, Proviſion, and Troops could be brought up. *Charles* had not Patience wait for *Levenhaupt*'s obeying his Commands, which he ſet about with all Expedition; but haſtily reſolved on paſſing the *Boriſthenes*, which ſo far pleaſed the *Czar*, that he offered no Impediment to his paſſing it, which was on the 15th of *Auguſt*. He marched with all his Army towards *Soſſa*, which he alſo paſſed without meeting any Interruption. But at *Czarnapatta*, the third, but a ſmall River, ſix of the beſt *Swediſh* Regiments, under the Command of General *Roſe* were attacked by a Body of *Ruſſians* under the Command of Prince *Galitzin*, conſiſting of eight Regiments of Infantry, and two of Dragoons, which the *Czar* had detached thither, from certain Information of the *Swedes* intended Route.

Early on the 9th of *September*, after a very long March, Prince *Galitzin*, Lieutenant-General, came up with them; and being covered by a very thick Fog, he was unperceived by the *Swedes* till almoſt upon them. They, notwithſtanding the Surprize, fought with their uſual Bravery, and the *Ruſſians* (who were indeed almoſt double the Number) fought with great Reſolution.

Reſolution. The Battle continued until the clearing up of the Fog, when the *Swedes*, ſeeing themſelves in Danger of being beſet on all Sides, retreated in the beſt Order they could, ſtill oppoſing a Front to the *Ruſſians*, who followed them for a Mile; but declined purſuing them any farther, leſt the King of *Sweden*, who was not far off with his Army, ſhould ſend a Reinforcement.

The *Swedes* had about a thouſand Men killed and wounded. They loſt ſix Colours, with two Standards, in this Action. The Loſs on the Side of the *Ruſſians* did not exceed ſeven hundred. This Victory gave ſo much Satisfaction to the *Czar*, that he invited the General Officers to Supper with him; during which, ſeeming to have loſt all Fear of his Enemy, he was unuſually merry and facetious.

As *Charles* XII. continued his March, he was ſome Days after attacked on his Left by the *Calmucks* and *Coſſacks*, ſupported by ſix Regiments of Dragoons under General *Renn*'s Command. In this Attack about a hundred *Swedes* were killed, of which Number were two Colonels. The King of *Sweden*, fighting amongſt the foremoſt of his Men to repulſe the Enemy, had a Horſe ſhot under him.

The *Czar* being duly informed of *Levenhaupt*'s Expedition, in order to join the King his Maſter, who had precipitately altered his intended March for *Smolensko* to the *Ukraine*, invited thither by *Mazepa*'s wonderful Promiſes,

Promiſes, took every Precaution to prevent a Junction, and marched towards *Gorky* with ten Regiments of Dragoons, and ſix of Infantry, beſides *Coſſacks*, He left Orders at the ſame Time for Lieutenant-General *Bower*, to march in his Rear with ten Regiments of Dragoons, that in caſe of Emergency he might be reinforced therewith.

The two Armies were in Sight of each other on the 8th of *October*. The *Swedes*, under the Command of *Levenhaupt*, were encamped on the Banks of *Pronia*, a ſmall River. Being ignorant of the Number of the *Ruſſians*, he did not think it it incumbent on him to attack them; but rather, in Obedience to his Orders, to make every Effort to join his Royal Maſter.

The *Czar* came up the next Day before Nine o' Clock in the Morning at the Head of twenty thouſand Men. The *Swediſh* General having perceived that his Intent was to give Battle, drew up his Men, and poſted at the ſame Time on the Side of a Moraſs two Battalions of Infantry; becauſe, before the Enemy could attack him, he knew they muſt be under a Neceſſity of paſſing that Way.

The *Czar* ſeeng his Drift, commanded Colonel *Campbell* with his Regiment of Dragoons diſmounted (which two Battalions of the Guards were to ſupport) to go and beat the Enemy from the Moraſs; which Order, after a ſmart Skirmiſh on both Sides, was executed. Then the two Armies being arrayed in Order

of

of Battle, which was carried on vigorouſly for near an Hour, when the *Swedes* made ſo extraordinary an Effort, that their Enemy was obliged to retire, but in good Order. *Levenhaupt* imprudently fancying that the *Ruſſians* had got enough, did not think it ſo proper for him to purſue his Advantage as to continue his March: But Lieutenant-General *Bower* having ſoon after joined the Army with ſix freſh Regiments of Dragoons, the *Czar* ſtrengthened his whole Line with them.

The Battle was conſequently renewed about Four in the Afternoon, and fought with determined and obſtinate Reſolution on both Sides till late in the Night, when the *Sweäes* were compelled to retreat behind their Waggons.

By reaſon of the Darkneſs of the Night, his *Czariſh* Majeſty could not purſue the Victory, but retired a little backward with his Army, who remained all Night under Arms, in order to attack the *Swedes* a-new by Break of Day, and make a deciſive Affair of it; for which all neceſſary Preparations were made in the *Ruſſian* Army.

But, as ſoon as Light appeared, and the *Czar* was ready to attack the *Swedes*, he was not a little ſurprized at his Diſcovery of General *Levenhaupt*'s having marched off in the Night; who, becauſe he judged his diſabled Troops not at all in a Conditon to make any farther Reſiſtance; and, that his Retreat might not be retarded by Incumbrances, had left his Ammunition, Proviſions,

and

and Artillery, with the Wounded, to the Mercy of the *Ruſſians*.

Lieutenant-General *Flough* was ordered by the *Czar*, with a thouſand Grenadiers on Horſeback, and four Regiments of Dragoons, to purſue them. They came up with the *Swedes* at about a League's Diſtance from the Field of Battle, and followed them ſo cloſely that they were neceſſitated to retire into a Church-yard, at a Village called *Propoiſe*, to the Amount of four thouſand. They made a Sign to capitulate on *Flough*'s Approach.

He ſent a Lieutenant with ſix Grenadiers to offer them Quarters. But moſt of the *Swediſh* Soldiers being drunk, and regardleſs of their Officers Orders, fired their Muſkets, killed two of the Grenadiers, and the Lieutenant very narrowly eſcaped. General *Flough*, highly irritated, attacked them on all Sides; and all who did not throw down their Arms and ſupplicate for Mercy, were put to the Sword. Some Hours before, General *Levenhaupt*, with near five thouſand Horſe and Dragoons, had paſſed the River *Solock*, and joined his Royal Maſter with them.

In this Battle, which had been ſo obſtinately fought on both Sides, the *Ruſſian* Army conſiſted of twenty-eight thouſand Men, beſides the *Czar*'s animating Preſence and Example, which were no ſmall Addition. The *Swedes* amounted but to ſixteen thouſand; about an hundred of their Officers were killed, among whom was Major-General *Stackelberg*, and

and three thouſand eight hundred private Men; two thouſand nine hundred were wounded. Thoſe killed, wounded, and taken in the Purſuit, were near five thouſand. They loſt ſixteen Pieces of Cannon, thirty-ſeven Colours and Standards, ſeven thouſand three hundred Waggons, beſides Proviſions, Ammunition and Caſh, and what they had burnt before they retreated

Upwards of three thouſand were killed on the Side of the *Ruſſians*, (among them one Colonel, and eighty Officers of leſſer Rank.) They had about four thouſand wounded, of which Number was Prince *D'Armſtadt* a Lieutenant-General, who died ſoon after; two *Ruſſian* Colonels were alſo wounded, and Lieutenant-General *Bower* ſlightly.

Charles XII. finding himſelf diſappointed of this Reinforcement, Ammunition, Proviſions, *&c.* on all which he had ſo great a Dependance, directed his March from *Niſna* to *Orlacow* on the River *Diſna*, over which he intended to paſs, in order to join *Mazepa*, his now laſt Reſource: And this he attempted on the 21ſt of *October*. But Major-General *Gordon* was detached with a Battalion of Grenadiers, three Regiments of Horſe, four of Dragoons, with eight Field-pieces, to ſtop the *Swedes* paſſing the River at all Events, who for that Purpoſe had made near forty large Floats of ſtrong Trees well joined together; each carried a hundred Men cloſe-

wedged;

wedged. They ſet out about Six o' Clock in the Evening, but met with ſuch a warm and unexpected Reception from the Enemy's ſmall Arms and Artillery, that they were ſeveral Times repulſed with a conſiderable Loſs. An inceſſant Firing was continued from Six to Eleven at Night. But the *Ruſſians* were at laſt (their Ammunition being quite conſumed) obliged to retire to a little Diſtance, they being ſtill uninteruptedly fired upon by the Enemy.

Gordon diſpatched ſeveral Adjutants to the Army then at *Verowich*, not more than ſeven Leagues diſtant from where he was, for Ammunition. Inſtead of which he received Marſhal *Shermetoff*'s Command to retreat; which he did in perfect good Order, carrying off his Artillery and the wounded, which amounted to nine hundred. Of his Corps a thouſand were killed; in which Number was one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, and ſixteen Officers of leſſer Rank, beſides their Wounded. There were two thouſand of the Enemy killed.

The *Swedes* were employed three entire Days in paſſing over the River with their Ammunition, Baggage and Artillery. The *Czar* committed a Fault in not having marched with his Army, and fallen upon them when about Half had croſſed the River, to which he was ſtrenuouſly urged by his General. But the (on this Occaſion) too cautious *Czar*, declined as yet to hazard a deciſive Action; which,

if

if he had, it was then, and and now is the general Opinion of all ſkilled in military Affairs, that the *Swediſh* Monarch muſt have been inevitably defeated, and totally overthrown.

Charles, having croſſed the *Diſna* with much Difficulty, marched towards the Dutchy of *Zernicow*; from which Place (befote he could poſſibly reach it) the *Czar* had given Orders, that all the Forage and Proviſions ſhould be carried off and deſtroyed. There his *Swediſh* Majeſty was to be joined by *Hettman Mazepa*, who turned out conſiderably ſhort of his Promiſe, for, inſtead of thirty thouſand, he did not bring above five thouſand *Coſſacks* with him; and they in three Days after went moſtly over to the *Czar*, as ſoon as they had diſcovered for what Intent they had been led to that Place, and proteſted themſelves to be abſolutely guiltleſs and innocent of the *Hettman*'s treacherous Deſigns. His *Czariſh* Majeſty received them, returning to their Duty with paternal Affection, gave the higheſt Encomiums to their Fidelity; and *Mazepa* being declared a Traitor and burnt in Effigy, he appointed *Scuropetſky*, *Hettman* of the *Coſſacks*; for which, however, he took Care to have the previous Approbation of their Colonels. Not above fifty Perſons, and they moſtly his Domeſtics, remained with *Mazepa*; which general Deſertion proved a new Mortification to the King of *Sweden*.

In order to puniſh the Traitor, Prince *Menzekoff*, with twenty thouſand Men was diſpatched

diſpatched by the *Czar* to attack *Baturin*, the *Hettman*'s Reſidence. At *Menzekoff*'s Appearance, one Part of the Town oppoſed his Entrance; but the others opened their Gates without the leaſt Shew of Reſiſtance. *Menzekoff* went directly to *Mazepa*'s Palace, expecting to find a conſiderable Treaſure there; but *Mazepa* had ſent all his Riches, with Proviſions, *&c.* to the King of *Sweden*'s Camp. This Diſappointment ſo incenſed *Menzekoff*, that many innocent Families, to the Number of ſome Thouſands, ſuffered for the Wicked. The Prince firſt ordered a general Plunder of the whole Town, and then burnt it to Aſhes.

The *Czar* having received Advice about the End of *December*, from the Crown-Generals of *Lithuania* and *Poland*, that *Staniſlaus*, with a conſiderable Corps of the Natives of the two Countries, and four thouſand *Swedes* under the Command of General *Craſſow*, was preparing to attack them; in order to enable the Crown-Generals to make a Stand againſt the Enemy, diſpatched to them on the 26th of that Month, Major-General *Gordon*, Lieutenant-General Prince *Galitzin*, and General *Goltz*, with near ten thouſand Men.

Notwithſtanding the exceſſive Coldneſs of the Seaſon, this little Army marched from *Liledin*, and arrived in the Beginning of *February* at *Kiow*. General *Goltz* diſpatched a Courier to the Crown-Generals, with Advice of his coming to their Aſſiſtance; and that,

that, if they ſhould find themſelves any Way ſtraitened by the *Swedes*, their Buſineſs would be to march towards the *Poliſh Ukraine*, where he would join them (as ſoon as he ſhould be ſupplied with Forage) with his Detachment: which conſiſting of five thouſand eight hundred Foot, and three thouſand ſix hundred Dragoons, now ſtored with Proviſion and Forage, marched from *Kiow* into *Great Poland*.

Staniſlaus, convinced of the Danger which muſt ariſe from a Junction of the two Armies, reſolved firſt to attack that of the *Ruſſians*, and next to fall upon that of the Crown-Generals. But *Goltz*, having got Advice of the Intent, prepared for all Events; and as he marched near *Podkamien*, an obſcure Place in *Black Ruſſia*, the Enemy, ſuperior in Number to the *Ruſſians*, came in View in the Afternoon. The *Poles* were commanded by the *Woywode* of *Kiow*, and Count *Sapega*. They did not wait for the coming up of the *Swediſh* Foot, but ruſhed upon the *Ruſſians* with great Impetuoſity, who gave them ſo warm a Reception, that in leſs than Half an Hour they were driven back upon their Infantry, and a general Confuſion enſued.

The *Swediſh* Troops made a precipitate Retreat, and muſt have been totally defeated, had not Night, luckily for them, ſtopped the Purſuit. About four hundred of the Enemy were killed and wounded in this Action, and a hundred Priſoners taken, beſides thoſe in the Purſuit. They loſt near three hundred Waggons,

Waggons, three Pair of Kettle-drums and fourteen Standards. The Number of the Killed and Wounded on the Side of the *Ruſſians*, did not exceed twenty-five.

General *Craſſow* with his fonr thouſand *Swedes*, and King *Staniſlaus*, with his remaining *Poles*, returned to *Great Poland*, ſtill purſued by General *Goltz*, until he joined the Crown-Generals at *Limberg*. Having called a Conncil of War there, it was unanimouſly reſolved to continue purſuing the *Swedes* till they ſhould evacuate the Country, or be forced to hazard another Battle. The *Czariſh* Arms were alſo crowned with Succeſs the ſame Year (1709) in *Finland*, againſt a Party of the Enemy.

Let us now return to the King of *Sweden*, who, notwithſtanding accumulated Difficulties and Diſappointments, joined to the intenſe Coldneſs of the Seaſon, which was an inſuperable Bar to all military Atchievements, marched towards *Rumnie* and *Konnotope*. His Army was in thoſe Parts ſo pinched for Want of Proviſions, that twenty-five Guilders was the Price of a Meaſure of Barley-meal. The *Swediſh* Troops were in the deplorable Situation of ſtarving with Hunger, and periſhing with Cold, while their Enemy abounded with every Thing. Not only the *Ruſſian* Officers, but even the Soldiers, were cloathed with Furs. Frequent Skirmiſhes happened; Deſpair animating one Side, and Wantonneſs encouraging the other.

Charles

Charles having taken and deſtroyed (in his Way from *Mopozwa* to *Hadiſh*) a ſmall Town called *Vopruz*, in Spite of the bad Plight and Sufferings of his Army, perſevered in his Notion of penetrating as far as *Moſcow*, which occaſioned his March to *Pultawa*, quite contrary to the Opinion of his Generals.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty marched with a large Body, in order to defend *Pultawa*, a large, but not ſtrong Place; however of the laſt Conſequence to him. On the 20th of *June* he croſſed the River *Worskla*, and encamped within a League of the Enemy, who was entrenched to the greateſt Advantage. The *Ruſſian* Army drew nearer to the *Swediſh* entrenched Army, on the 25th, by near Half a a League. The *Czar*, accompanied by his principal Officers and a ſtrong Detachment of his Guards, reconnoitred the Enemy on the 26th, and ſet about making all neceſſary Diſpoſitions to give them Battle next Day, as ſoon as he returned to his Camp. The *Swediſh* Monarch having in like manner diſpoſed Matters, was determined to attack.

The two Armies commanded by their two Sovereigns, (the Activity of *Charles* was impeded by a lately received Wound in a Skirmiſh with ſome *Coſſacks*) were drawn up and diſpoſed of with great military Skill on both Sides. The *Swediſh* Monarch gave Orders before Day, on the 27th, to three Regiments of Foot, with four of Horſe and Dragoons, to aſſail the Right of the *Ruſſians*, and keep them occupied

occupied till he ſhould come up with the Army; which advanced Corps, commanded by Major-Generals *Slepenback* and *Roſe*, ſo impetuouſly attacked the Right of the *Ruſſian* Army that it was obliged to give Way. The Infantry at the ſame Time made themſelves Maſters of two Redoubts, and the *Ruſſians* were followed ſo far, that their Purſuers were cut off from the Main of their Army, and ſo terribly fired on by the Cannon from the *Ruſſian* Entrenchments, that they were under the Neceſſity of retreating to a low Ground near a Wood.

The *Czar*, who had obſerved them, ſent his Orders to Lieutenant-General *Hynſky* at at the Head of five Regiments of Dragoons, and Lieutenant-General *Rentzel* with the ſame Number of Infantry, to diſlodge them, which, after a ſmart Engagement, was effected; the Detachment being totally routed, and Major-General *Slepenback* taken Priſoner. The other Major-General, *Roſe*, eſcaped towards a riſing Ground, where, meeting with a Redoubt, he thought to ſave himſelf with ſome few Followers. But General *Rentzel*, who never loſt Sight of him, ſurrounded the Redoubt, and ſent a Drum with Offer of Quarters, on ſurrendering at Diſcretion, which, after ſome Debate, was agreed to.

Colonel *Golowin* was ordered to march at the Head of three Battalions to make himſelf Maſter of a Cloiſter near the Town, in order to preſerve a Communication with it. Then the

the *Ruſſian* Army moved boldly towards the Enemy, who at the ſame Time marched undauntedly againſt them. The Onſet of both Armies (they being formed pretty near alike) was violent. The Battle began about Nine o' Clock in the Morning, and for above an Hour was fought with amazing Reſolution on both Sides. The *Swedes*, at laſt quite ſpent, gave Way, and were ſo broke they could not continue the Battle any longer. The victorious *Ruſſians*, purſuing their Advantage, cut them down unmercifully. Their Loſs was immenſe. Their Horſe ſuffered prodigiouſly, but their Infantry much more. They made their Retreat from the Field of Battle in tolerable good Order. Never was a more compleat Victory obtained, and all by the firſt Line of the *Ruſſian* Army, without any Aid from the ſecond, which had no Opportunity of coming into Play.

During this Action, the *Czar* gave many Proofs of perſonal Courage and true Heroiſm: He was mounted on a *Turkiſh* Horſe, and preſent at every Place where requiſite. He gave Orders immediately after the entire Rout of the *Swediſh* Army, to Prince *Galitzin*, with the Guards all on Horſeback, and to General *Bower*, with four thouſand Dragoons, to go divers Way in Purſuit of them. Prince *Menzekoff* marched next Day at the Head of five thouſand Dragoons, and being joined by *Bower*, came up with the Enemy on the 30th at *Peterwolochin*,

Perewolochin, who began to form themſelves on the Decline of a Hill near the *Boriſthenes*.

The *Ruſſian* Generals were informed by a *Swediſh* Quarter-Maſter, brought in Priſoner to them, that his *Swediſh* Majeſty, with *Mazepa*, Major-Generals *Horn* and *Spar*, and about five hundred of the beſt mounted Troops, about three Hours before had croſſed the *Boriſthenes*; and that General *Levenhaupt* was left Commander of the Army. Upon this Advice Prince *Menzekoff* marched up near to the Enemy, and ſent to the Commander a Brigadier to offer Quarters on ſurrendering Priſoners of War, repreſenting to them, at the ſame Time, their helpleſs Situation; that any idle Reſiſtance muſt be productive of their certain Ruin, as the *Czar* was in full March at the Head of his Troops to attack them.

After ſomewhat more than two Hours Deliberation (which Delay was calculated for his Royal Maſter's eſcaping) General *Levenhaupt* ſent proper Officers to treat of a Surrender with Prince *Menzekoff*, for himſelf and the Troops under him; which was agreed upon, and the Terms were as mild as a victorious Army could grant, or a vanquiſhed one hope to receive. Dated at *Perewolochin* the 30th Day of *June*, 1709. Signed

MENZEKOFF.
C. LEVENHAUPT.

By this Agreement ſixteen thouſand Horſe and Dragoons ſurrendered Priſoners of War to nine thouſand *Ruſſians*. It ought to be re-

membered, that the unhappy *Swedes* had not one Mouthful of Bread left; nor for three Days before had eaten a tolerable Meal. The whole amount of the Killed, Wounded, and taken Priſoners, in this deciſive Battle, was about thirty-two thouſand, beſides Fugitives, who, to the Number of ſome thouſands, were afterwards taken and brought in by the *Coſſacks*. They were all Natives of *Sweden*, there having been no Strangers in that Army; (tho' *Voltaire* and others advance the contrary) four Pieces of Cannon, one hundred and fifty Colours and Standards, with between four and five thouſand Waggons, fell into the Hands of the Conquerors.

Two thouſand Dragoons, and as many *Coſſacks*, were ſent in Purſuit of *Charles* XII. But *Mazepa*, who was perfectly well acquainted with the Country, conducted him through private Paths to *Oczakow*, for the Monarch's Safety and his own. The Governor of that Town heſitated for ſome Time about letting them paſs over the *Bog*, without the *Baſſa* of *Bender*'s Commands.

The King of *Sweden* was ſcarcely got on the other Side of the River when the *Ruſſian* Purſuers came up, and made ſome of his ſmall Company Priſoners in his Sight, with whom General *Bower* returned to *Pultawa*, not having Orders to proceed farther. The *Swediſh* defeated Monarch, not thinking himſelf ſafe in *Oczakow*, an inconſiderable and badly-fortified Place, went to *Bender*, where the *Baſſa* paid him all Manner of Reſpect.

As

As ſoon as the *Czar* was informed by General *Bower*, of the King of *Sweden*'s paſſing into *Turkey*, he diſpatched a Commiſſary to the *Porte*, requiring the Delivery into his Hands of the *Swediſh* Monarch, and, more particularly, *Mazepa* the Traitor; which, by the *Mufty*'s Advice, the Grand *Signior* refuſed to comply with; for, "To grant an aſſured Re-"fuge and inviolable Protection to all who "ſolicit for them in Diſtreſs, is a Rule in the "*Alcoran*."

His *Czariſh* Majeſty treated the *Swediſh* Priſoners with great Humanity, and made the General Officers dine with him. Among other Things he enquired of the Marſhal *Renſhild* what was the ſtrongeſt of their Army before the Battle. He replied, The exact Number had been unknown to moſt but the King; he however computed about thirty-five thouſand. The *Czar* further aſked how, with ſo ſmall an Army, they could venture ſo far from their own Country into an Enemy's? The King's Will was the only Reaſon he alledged, their Advice being but ſeldom aſked, and very rarely attended to. The *Czar* gave him a Sword in Recompence for his good Behaviour, as a faithful Officer, and after Dinner ordered the *Swediſh* Generals to be diſtributed amongſt his own, each ſuited to his Rank, and from them downwards.

The *Czar*, ſome Time after the Battle of *Pultawa*, having forgot all Reſentment againſt King *Auguſtus*, (whether ſincerely or feignedly not known) entered into a new Alliance,

offenſive and defenſive, againſt the King of *Sweden*, to which *Auguſtus* acceded.

Great Rejoicings were made all over *Ruſſia*, for the ſurprizing Victory at *Pultawa*. A great Feſtival was appointed all over the City of *Moſcow* to continue fourteen Days. The *Ruſſian* Miniſters at foreign Courts, particularly at the *Hague*, *Denmark*, and *Pruſſia*, diſtinguiſhed themſelves on this Occaſion, ſo glorious to their Maſter, his Empire, and Subjects.

King *Staniſlaus*, during the Period of this fatal Cataſtrophe of his late ſtrenuous Ally, but now unfortunate Hero, who, without Money or Troops, was obliged to fly for an Aſylum among the *Turks*, was not in a much happier Situation himſelf, being rather an *incognito* Lurker in *Poland*, than at the Head of a Body of Troops.

An entire Revolution was cauſed in *Poliſh* Politics, by the Victory at *Pultawa*. *Auguſtus* proteſted againſt his Abdication of the Throne of *Poland* in Favour of *Staniſlaus*, becauſe it was a forced one; and declared that he intended to reinſtate himſelf. On his Return to *Poland*, a great many Senators waited on, to congratulate his Majeſty; of which Number were ſome who had declared for King *Staniſlaus*: whom, as well as all who renounced that Intereſt, he graciouſly pardoned.

King *Staniſlaus*, not thinking himſelf ſafe in *Poland*, after the Defeat of *Pultawa* and its Conſequences, fled with a few Servants into *Turkey*, where he was made a Priſoner; and, much about the Time that unfortunate *Charles*

XII.

XII. had been forcibly taken at *Bender* by the *Janiſſaries*.

Czar Peter, on his Return to *Poland*, having croſſed the *Boriſthenes*, marched to *Uganow* through *Black Ruſſia*. He ſpent three Days in reviewing the Troops under General *Goltz*, which had been encamped there. From thence he went to *Viſtula*, and embarked on board a flat-bottom'd Veſſel, in which he ſailed down the River to *Thorn*. His attendant Guards and Dragoons marched by Land thither. He was here waited on by *Auguſtus*, King of *Poland*, who repaired on board the Veſſel. This was their firſt Interview ſince the private Treaty of *Alexanſtadt*. After embracing, the *Czar* obſerved *Auguſtus*'s Confuſion on that Head, and bid him think no more of it; for that it was the Diſtreſs of his Country which had forced him to it.

After a few Days Sojournment with King *Auguſtus* at *Thorn*, the *Czar* went to *Marienwonder* through *Poliſh Pruſſia*. He was met there on the 26th of *October* by the King of *Pruſſia*. On the 6th of *November* he parted from his *Pruſſian* Majeſty in order to go to *Courland* by the Way of *Koningsberg*. On the 17th he arrived at *Mittaw*, and was met by the Land-Marſhal, Magiſtrates, and Burghers, drawn up in Arms without the Town.

After a few Days Repoſe there, he ſet out for, and joined his Army, under the Command of Marſhal *Sheremetoff*, encamped before *Riga*; which Place, as the *Ruſſians* marched to inveſt, Major-General *Stackelberg*, with

about two thouſand *Swediſh* Horſe, made a bold Oppoſition, but was repulſed with the Loſs of fifty Men killed, and thirty wounded or taken Priſoners.

The *Czar*, on the 28th, ordered the Attacks to be carried on with all Diligence; but, ſeeing the Place was not like to ſurrender ſoon, in the Interim he repaired to *St. Peterſburgh*, and left to Marſhal *Sheremetoff* the Direction of the Siege. His *Czariſh* Majeſty left *St. Petersburgh* in the Beginning of *December*, in order to repair to *Moſcow*, where he made his public triumphant Entry; and, to give Time for all neceſſary Preparations, he continued ſome Days at *Columska*, within four Miles of the City.

On *New Year*'s Day, 1710, the triumphant Entry was made. All the Eccleſiaſtics and Grandees, in moſt gorgeous Attire, met the *Czar* a little beyond the firſt triumphal Arch, (for there were Seven) preſenting him with a congratulatory Addreſs on his amazing Succeſs. They carried Palms in their Hands, and ſtrewed artificial Flowers in the Way as he paſſed. The Generals, and other Officers of the *Swediſh* Army, marching according to their different Ranks of Precedency. This was not a Wantonneſs in the *Czar*, but a juſt Retaliation in Behalf of his Subjects; for the *Ruſſian* Generals, and other Officers made Priſoners at the firſt Affair of *Narva*, were made to undergo a like Ceremony at *Stockholm*, by the *Swedes*.

The Colours, Standards, Waggons, and Artillery, taken from the Enemy, with the Litter

Litter of *Charles* XIIth found in the Field of Battle at *Pultawa*, and quite ſhattered by Cannon-ſhot, were carried before him. His *Czariſh* Majeſty was mounted on the ſame Horſe he rode on the Day he conquered, and was attended by all the Officers of Rank who contributed to that Victory. The ſolemn Feſtival of the Day was terminated by univerſal Rejoicings over *Moſcow*, and the Illuminations laſted until Morning.

Mr. *Whiteworth*, the Embaſſador extraordinary from *England*, had a public Audience of the *Czar* with great Solemnity; in which ample Satisfaction was given to his Majeſty for the Affront received by his Ambaſſador two Years before in *London*. The Nature of the Affront was, he was arreſted by a Banker he owed three hundred Pounds to, and who got Information of his intending to leave *England* without paying him. Some of the foreign Miniſters went on this Occaſion to the Tavern, where he had been for a ſhort Time detained, and bailed him. The Banker, by Order of the Government, was ordered into Confinement. And this Incident gave Riſe to that Act of Queen *Anne*'s, which protects ſo largely the Perſons of Ambaſſadors and their Attendants.

When his *Czariſh* Majeſty was returned from *Moſcow* to *St. Peterſburgh*, he ordered *Apraxin*, the High-Admiral, with eighteen thouſand Infantry and Dragoons, to go and form the Siege of *Wiburg*, Capital of *Carelia*,

which was inveſted in Form on the 3d of *April*. *Czar Peter* came before it with the greateſt Part of his Fleet, that it might be attacked by Sea and Land. The Siege was carried on very vigorouſly, and, large Breaches being made, the Governor ſurrendered on honourable Terms, not chuſing to riſk the Peril of an Aſſault.

As ſoon as the News of the Surrender of *Wiburg* was brought to Marſhal *Sheremetoff*, before *Riga*, which he had not reduced as yet, he had the Governor acquainted therewith, in Hopes that it might induce him to think of Terms; which Account, joined to his ſeeing no Poſſibility of receiving Succours, engaged him to enter into Terms on the *Czarina*'s Birth-day, the 10th of *July*. A Plague raged violently over *Poland* this Year, of which Numbers on both Sides died: But more of the *Poles*, of whom an hundred thouſand periſhed.

The *Czar* was ſo well pleaſed to hear of the Surrender of *Riga*, which he had long wiſhed for, that he ordered a Day of religious Thankſgiving and public Rejoicing. His next Command to Marſhal *Sheremetoff*, was to take *Dunamunde*, an important Fort; which he did after fourteen Days beſieging. After which *Pernaw*, *Kexholm*, and *Revel* ſurrendered, after very ſhort Sieges. The *Czar*, in order to attach the *Livonians* more effectually, raiſed ſeveral Regiments amongſt them, and of which none but Natives were to have the Command.

All

All this Time the King of *Sweden* was not idle at *Bender*, and prevailed on the *Sultan* to break with *Ruſſia*, in 1711, and put the *Czar*'s Miniſter at *Conſtantinople* into Confinement; Orders being given to the Grand *Vizir* to march againſt him with two hundred thouſand *Turks*, beſides *Tartars*, whoſe Number was not leſs than forty thouſand. He put himſelf at their Head in *March*, 1711, at *Adrianople*, the Place of their Rendezvous. He decamped from thence, and marched to the *Danube*.

As ſoon as the *Czar* had got all his Forces together, amounting to near fifty thouſand Foot and Dragoons, he marched from the Frontiers of *Poland* to *Jaſſay*, the Capital of *Moldavia*, and remained there ſome Days. From *Jaſſay* he continued his March on the North-ſide of the the River *Pruth*. The *Ruſſian* Generals *Repnin*, *Albert*, Prince *Galitzin*, and Marſhal *Sheremetoff*, remonſtrated againſt this March to the *Czar*, but in vain. He began to be too confident of Succeſs, holding the *Turks* cheap; a glaring Inſtance of it, was his letting the Enemy paſs unoppoſed to the ſame Side of the River he was on; and another Miſtake, was his truſting for Proviſions to the *Moldavians* and *Wallachians*; which the *Ruſſian* Armies, when warring with the *Turks* heretofore, uſed always to carry with them. *Czar Peter* ſaw his Error when too late to be remedied; for no ſooner had the *Turkiſh* Army croſſed the *Pruth*, than both *Wallachians*

and *Moldavians*, quite regardleſs of the *Czar*, carried their Proviſions to them.

The *Spahis* *, and *Janiſſaries* of the *Turkiſh* Army, attacked the *Ruſſians* twice, but were repulſed each Time with Loſs not inconſiderable. The terrible Scarcity of Proviſions in the *Czar*'s Army, made him reſolve on a deciſive Action; and if the Fortune of War ſhould go againſt him, ten thouſand of his beſt Dragoons, with his Guards all on Horſeback, were order'd to be in Readineſs to cover his Retreat. His perilous Situation, owing to his own Poſitiveneſs, gave him great Anxiety.

By the Advice of his principal Officers and the *Czarina*, a Bribe was to be offered to the *Vizir*; inaſmuch as thoſe in his Station have often run the Hazard of the Bow-ſtring on ſuch Occaſions. After ſome Debate, (a conſiderable Preſent of Jewels, Gold, and Money, having ſoftened the Way) a Treaty was concluded, and ſome Articles (not altogether agreeable) the *Czar* thought proper to ſign, in order to extricate himſelf and his Army out of the preſent Dilemma.

Charles XIIth. who had ſet out Poſt from *Bender*, arrived not at the *Turkiſh* Camp till after the Concluſion of the Treaty; new Cauſe of Mortification to him, and another Proof of his being perſecuted by his evil Genius. For had he been with his few *Swedes* in the Attacks the *Turks* made, he probably would have ſhewed the Way to beat the

* *Spahis*, Cavalry.

Ruſſians,

Ruſſians, and have prevented this Treaty, ſo contrary to all his Wiſhes, while the *Czar* was reſcued from the moſt imminent Danger (he had obſtinately plunged himſelf into) by that good Fortune which always attended him; lucky even in his Bribe, which did not exceed the Value of fifty thouſand Pounds ſterling; for, if inſiſted on, he would have given ſome Millions, and conſented to the Ceſſion of his loved *St. Peterſburgh*, and all the *Swediſh* Provinces; but, happily for him, the *Vizir* was a weak, unintelligent Man. For what could the *Czar*'s Army (though conſiſting of but twenty-four thouſand Men) do in a ſtrange Country, very diſtant from their own, quite deſtitute of Proviſion, againſt above two hundred thouſand *Turks* and *Tartars*, provided with all Neceſſaries.

The *Ruſſian* Army, after the Treaty was was ſigned, (being ſupplied with all they wanted by the *Turks*, who treated them very humanely) marched off, Colours flying, Drums beating, *&c.* This memorable Treaty was ſigned on the 21ſt of *July*, 1711. The *Czar* halted but as little as poſſible, till he reached the Frontiers of *Poland*, where his firſt Care, after ordering his Troops into Quarters of Refreſhment, was to order his Regiments to be recruited; for about five and twenty thouſand Men had been loſt in his raſh Expedition to *Pruth*, which was very nigh being his total Overthrow: And, had *Charles* XII. joined

joined the *Turks* early enough, he would, in all Probability, have furniſhed the *Czar* with the Reverſe of the Battle of *Pultawa*; who luckily eſcaped; then marched by *Warſaw* to *Elbing*, where he arrived the 12th of *September*; and paſſed thro' *Dreſden* on the 20th of that Month, in his Way to the Waters of *Carleſbath*. On the 28th he went to *Torgaw*, where the Queen of *Poland* had great Preparations made for celebrating the *Czarowich*'s Marriage with Princeſs *Charlotte Chriſtine*, Daughter of the Duke *Lewis Rudolph*, of *Brunſwick-Wolfembuttle*, and the Empreſs of *Germany*'s Siſter.

A few Days after the Solemnization, he paſſed through *Sileſia* into *Royal Pruſſia*, and there the Troops under General *Bower*'s Command were reviewed by him. He made a Tour to ſeveral Places, which he concluded by repairing to his favourite *St. Peterſburg*.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty's Arms were ſucceſsful in moſt Places againſt the ſcattered Parties of the *Swediſh* Forces. Count *Stenbuck*, who had given a great deal of Trouble, ſurrendered at Diſcretion. About the ſame Time Princeſs *Elizabeth* was born. The Siege of *Stetin*, by the *Ruſſians*, was begun the 14th of *September*; it ſurrendered on the laſt Day of that Month.

The *Czar*, ſeeing all his pacific Propoſals during the Winter either evaded, or not properly attended to, made all neceſſary Preparations for the next Campaign, in order to take the Field early. Prince *Galitzin*, having defeated

defeated the *Swediſh* General, *Arnfelt*, near *Vaſa*, (which Town ſurrendered immediately after) the *Czar*, by that Victory, became Maſter of *Finland*; and, in conſequence thereof, publiſhed a Manifeſto, That it was the King of *Sweden*'s Obſtinacy in refuſing Offers of Peace, that obliged him to continue Hoſtilities, to his no ſmall Regret. He ſoon after defeated the *Swediſh* Admiral, and took Poſſeſſion of the Iſle of *Allandt*, where he landed twelve thouſand Men.

The *Czar*, after this ſucceſsful Expedition, returned to *Revel*, and went from thence to *St. Peterſburgh*. His Empreſs was there delivered of another Daughter, called *Margaret*. He made a triumphant Entry on the Occaſion of his late Sea-victory, having commanded in Perſon. He paid due Honour to the Conduct and Bravery of the *Swediſh* Admiral *Erenſcholdt*; who was not backward in returning Compliments to the *Czar* and his Troops, comparing them to the beſt then in *Europe*.

The Imperial Princeſs was delivered of a Daughter about the End of *July*, who was called *Natalia*. The Imperial Prince, or *Czarowich*, was then for his Health (as he pretended) at *Carelsbad*. The Order of *St. Katharine* was inſtituted on the St. *Andrew*'s Day of this Year, and the Device is, *For Love and Fidelity*. This was in Gratitude to his Empreſs, who had accompanied him in his inconſiderate Expedition againſt the *Turks*, on the Banks of the *Pruth*; who was principally inſtrumental

inſtrumental in ſcheming, furniſhing Materials, and, having the *Vizir* bribed. He firſt appointed a Chamber of Juſtice to enquire into the Abuſes committed by the Governors of Provinces; and ſoon after, to prevent all ſuch Mal-practices for the future, he inſtituted a Senate, conſiſting of eleven eminent Perſons; *James Dolgoruky*, their Preſident.

Charles XIIth. fallen from his mighty Hopes of *Turkiſh* Aſſiſtance, quitted their Territories, and thro' *Franconia*, *Hungary*, and *Germany*, he travelled *incognito*. On the 22d of *November*, 1714, late at Night, he arrived at *Stralſund*. On Advice of his Arrival, the neighbouring Princes ſent their congratulatory Compliments to him, adviſing, at the ſame Time, peaceable Meaſures; which he appeared as averſe from as ever, and talked of nothing but mighty Preparations to renew Hoſtilities againſt the *Ruſſians*.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty, as well as the Kings of *Denmark* and *Poland*, turned all their Attention to the Tranſactions at *Stralſund*, and were determined to bring him to Action ſoon, and, by not delaying, defeat his becoming a formidable Opponent. The King of *Pruſſia*, having had *Stetin* reſtored to him, acceded to the Alliance againſt *Charles*, which was favoured by the Elector of *Hanover*, who had juſt aſcended the *Britiſh* Throne, on account of the King of *Denmark*'s ceding to him by Agreement *Bremen* and *Verden*.

Czar

Czar Peter, in the Beginning of *June*, 1715, ſailed, with a great Fleet and a numerous Land-Army, towards the Iſland of *Gotland*; from which Place he ſailed in the Beginning of *September* for *Sundermania*. He ordered two thouſand of his Forces to debark, ſeek the Enemy, and plunder the Country. Having met none of the *Swediſh* Troops, who were ſixteen *French* Leagues diſtant from them, they pillaged the Country all around, and returned to the Fleet with a large Booty.

The *Czar*, at his Return to *St. Peterſburgh* with his Fleet, received the welcome News of a Grandſon being born to him, of whom the Mother died in Child-bed, in *October*. On the 8th of the following Month, in the ſame Year, his Empreſs *Katharine* was delivered, on which flattering Occaſion he ordered Rejoicings for eight Days. The young Prince was baptized the 17th by the Name of *Peter*. His Sponſors by Proxy were their Majeſties of *Denmark* and *Pruſſia*.

While the *Czar* and his Empreſs were in *Copenhagen*, whither he had lately ſailed with all his Galleys, two Fleets, one *Engliſh*, the other *Dutch*, with a large Fleet of Trading Veſſels for the different Ports of the *Baltick*, moored in the Road before that City. The *Czar*, very deſirous to ſee the Fleet aſſembled there under Sail, ordered it to be hinted to Admiral *Norris*; who, with Pleaſure, prepared to gratify his Majeſty, on whom the chief Command was conferred. Admiral

Norris

Norris commanded the Van, and Count *Guildenlaw*, the *Daniſh* Admiral, the Rear. The Trading Veſſels were convoyed to their reſpective Ports by the *Dutch* Admiral.

The *Czar*, on the 16th of *Auguſt*, hoiſted on the Mainmaſt-head the Imperial Flag, as a Signal of his commanding in chief. Whereupon the *Engliſh* Admiral complimented him with a general Diſcharge. Then the *Czar* gave the Signal for ſailing. The ſeveral Admirals weighed Anchor, and ſailed in Conjunction for near two Leagues from *Copenhagen*, where his Majeſty ſtopt and anchored, and the attendant Admirals did the ſame at ſome Diſtance from him. From thence he ſailed as far as *Ainholm* with the combined Fleets, hoping to overtake the *Swediſh* Fleet; but it had already retired into *Carelſkroon*. The combined Fleets continued ſailing till they reached *Stralſund*. From which Place his *Czariſh* Majeſty diſpatched Orders to *Travemunde*, *Roſtock*, &c. that all his Troops ſhould forthwith embark, and ſail for *Copenhagen*; to which City he returned in a few Days with the combined Fleet, conſiſting of thoſe of four different Nations, which amounted to near eight hundred Ships of all Kinds. Never was a more gallant Appearance ſeen on the Sea; and the *Czar* was highly ſatisfied with this pleaſurable Expedition.

On account of ſome Diſguſt between the King of *Denmark* and the *Czar*, the latter gave Orders for the immediate Departure of all

all his Forces from the *Daniſh* Frontiers, and to march into *Mecklenburgh*, where they were to take up their Winter-Quarters, and be occupied the enſuing Spring according as Occaſion ſhould require. Moſt of his Fleet (conſiſting of Ships and Galleys) returned to *St. Peterſburgh*. He and the Empreſs went to *Mecklenburgh* by the Way of *Jutland*. As he paſſed at *Frederickſtadt*, he ſtrictly inſpected into the Manufactories there. He went to *Lubeck* from thence; from *Lubeck* to *Havelberg*. The King of *Pruſſia* and he had an Interview there.

The *Czar* went to *Hamburg* from *Havelberg*; for ſome Days repoſed there; and, being determined on a Journey to *Holland*, he left Marſhal *Sheremetoff* entruſted with the Command of his Army. About the Middle of *December* he reached *Amſterdam*; and was the Day after his Arrival, which had been late in the Evening before, waited on, and complimented by four Deputies; who, while he ſhould ſojourn in *Holland*, were appointed by the States to attend his Royal Perſon.

The agreeable News of his Empreſs being ſafely delivered of a Prince at *Weſel* was brought to him; which happy Event was by his Command immediately notified to the States, whom he intended ſhould be Sponſors to the new-born Prince; but they were debarred of that Honour by his dying a few Days after. The *Czar* employed his Time in ſeeing every Object worthy of his Curioſity; he viſited

ſited the Houſe he had lodged in formerly, and the Place where he had worked as a Carpenter. On the 9th of *February*, 1717, the Empreſs arrived at *Amſterdam*, where ſhe received Compliments ſimilar to thoſe which had been paid to the *Czar*. From thence the *Czar* and his Empreſs repaired to the *Hague*, and continued there to the Beginning of *April* following. From whence he went to *Amſterdam*, from thence to *Antwerp*, where the Dukes of *Holſtein Ploen*, agreeable to the Emperor's Orders, accompanied him to the *Auſtrian Netherlands*, and took Care, that on every Occaſion, all Honours were paid to him. On the 14th of the ſame Month he arrived at *Bruſſels*; from which City he proceeded to *Ghent*, *Bruges*, and *Dunkirk*.

He arrived in *Paris*, where great Preparations were made for his Reception on the 7th of *May*. Marſhal *De Teſſé* conducted him to the *Louvre*, where he was magnificently entertained. From thence he retired to the *Hotel les Dſguieres*, where the Duke of *Orleans*, then Regent of *France*, paid him an early Viſit next Morning. He was invited by the King on the 10th. The *Czar* received young *Lewis* as he ſtept out of his Coach, and returned his Viſit next Day. The King repeated the ſame Compliment of Reception at alighting out of his to him. The Magiſtrates of *Paris* waited on the *Czar* the ſame Day, and made him Preſents.

All

All neceſſary Ceremonies over, he viſited all the Curioſities, public Places, fine Hotels, Bridges, Royal Houſes, &c. On leaving *Paris*, he declared his Satisfaction in what he had ſeen, and the obliging Manner in which he had been treated by all Ranks from the Crown. He returned to *Amſterdam* on the 2d of *Auguſt*, where he was moſt impatiently expected by his Empreſs *Katharine*. There and in its Environs he continued till the 2d of *September*, inceſſantly viewing every Object of Curioſity. From thence he travelled through *Cleves* and *Magdebourg* to *Berlin*, where he arrived on the 19th, and the Empreſs on the 25th. During his three Days Sojournment there he had ſeveral Conferences with the *Pruſſian* Monarch. From *Berlin* he purſued his Way through *Dantzick*, *Koningſberg* and *Revel*; and, after an Abſence of ſixteen Months, arrived at his beloved *St. Peterſburgh*, that ſigh'd for his Return.

The latter Part of the Year 1711 was employed by *Czar Peter* in examining the Conduct of his Miniſters, in rectifying Abuſes, and in making the guilty undergo condign Puniſhment. He ſpent all the Mornings in the Senate, to hear the Complaints of his Subjects; and, on obſerving the Evils to ſurpaſs by far his Apprehenſions, he allowed the Impleaded a ſufficient Time to prepare for their Defence, that no Sentence precipitately given might be carried into Execution. For which ſalutary End, a Tribunal divided into ſeveral Claſſes

was

was inſtituted. Each conſiſted of a Major, a Captain, and Lieutenant of the Guards, who were to make an impartial Enquiry of all Matters ſubmitted to their Conigzance, and pronounce Sentence accordingly. No Diſpenſation on Account of Birth, Service, or Place, was allowed; nay, the very Senate, of which the moſt illuſtrious and diſtinguiſhed Men of the Empire were Members, was obliged to account for their Conduct before this Tribunal. The *Czar* had the Diſpleaſure of finding too many guilty, and of inflicting adequate Puniſhments. From Four in the Morning he uſed to be preſent at thoſe Examinations, and iſſued Regulations in order to prevent ſuch Abuſes for the future. He likewiſe inſtituted diſtinct Councils for foreign Affairs, Commerce, Manufactories, the Marine, Navy, and the Finances.

In the Year 1718, he gave Orders to fit out a powerful Fleet againſt the Spring; then left *St. Peterſburgh* and went to *Moſcow*, where the many long-practiſed Abuſes affected him much; the rectifying and chaſtiſing of which he referred to the above-inſtituted Tribunal; and, what augmented his deep Concern moſt, was the Flight of the Heir-apparent of the Empire, the *Czarowich* his Son: Who, (at the Time when the *Czar* left *Copenhagen*, before he went to *Holland*) the better to diſguiſe his Flight, gave out that he was going to join his Father. But the *Czar* having found out the Place of his Retreat, which was *Naples*, he diſpatched thither

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The CZAR upbraids the CZAROWICH his ſon with his undutyful & treaſouable Practices

thither two Officers after him, who prevailed on him to return. He ſigned at *Moſcow*, on the 14th of *February* 1719, an Act of Renunciation to his Birthright, the Empire.

Alexis, the *Czarowich*, diſcovered to his Father ſome of the Counſellors of his Flight, by writing their Names, but not of all. He mentioned nothing of the treaſonable Practices, and the Rebellion he was hatching, which was fully evidenced to by the Confeſſion of others. The *Czar* referred a Re-examination of his Conduct, and the Judgment to be pronounced, to the Clergy, who unanimouſly declared, That the *Czarowich*'s high Crimes and Miſdemeanours deſerved Death; and, purſuant thereto, the *Czarowich*'s Sentence of Death was ſigned at *Peterſburgh* the 24th of *June*, 1718, and ſigned by an hundred and twenty-four, Miniſters, Senators, General Officers, *&c.*

The *Czar*, being appriſed of the Sentence, declined declaring whether he would lean to the ſevere or merciful Side of Juſtice. He gave Orders for the Sentence being laid before the State-Criminal, who, being of a weakly and delicate Conſtitution, was ſo ſtruck with Horror thereat, that he fell into ſtrong Convulſions. It was with great Difficulty that he recovered ſo far, as to be able to beg his offended Father Pardon, in Preſence of the Miniſtry and Senators; which was granted to him; all the Phyſicians Endeavours to reſtore him to Health were in vain. He expired

pired on the fifth of *July*. His Death was by many ſuſpected not to have been entirely natural.

The Corps of the *Czarowich* was expoſed in the Church of the *Trinity* from the 8th to the 10th. The *Czar*, with all the Court, attended at the Funeral. He was buried near the Princeſs his Spouſe, with all the uſual Ceremonies. The *Czar* took great Care to vindicate his Conduct to the Public, that no Suſpicion might lie againſt it; and for that Purpoſe ſent a Memorial to the Courts of thoſe Powers where he had Ambaſſadors.

On this Occaſion many of the unfortunate *Alexis*'s Abettors and Adviſers were put to Death; among others the Metropolitan of *Reſan*, *James* his Confeſſor, Prince *Gagarin*, with many of the Laity as well as of the Clergy; nay, ſome Ladies of the firſt Quality were beheaded, and others broke on the Wheel. Many of all Ranks were baniſhed to *Siberia*. The unfortunate *Czarowich*'s Mother was condemned to ſpend the Remainder of her Days near the Lake of *Ladoga*, in a Convent; and the ſtrong Caſtle of *Slutleburg* was appointed for the future Reſidence of the Princeſs *Maria Alexowna*.

Much about this Time a Treaty of Peace was concluded between their Majeſties of *Ruſſia* and *Sweden*, agreeable to Baron *Gortz*'s Plan, by which *Sweden* was to make large Conceſſions to *Ruſſia*; and in Return the *Czar* was to aſſiſt *Charles* with Forces by Land, in order

order to recover an Equivalent on the Side of *Norway*, &c. to which his Crown had juſt Pretenſions. Purſuant to this Treaty, the Kings of *Sweden* and *Pruſſia* were to prepare as many Ships as ſhould be deemed neceſſary, to convey the King of *Sweden* with his Army, that before Winter they were to be in the *Swediſh* Ports, to execute their Deſign as ſoon as the Sea ſhould be navigable in thoſe Parts againſt which it was intended.

The *Czar* was to be in Readineſs at the ſame Time with his Ships of Force and Gallies to join the *Swediſh* Fleet, in order to block up the *Daniſh* Navy, that they might neither be an Impediment to the Tranſports, nor have it in their Power to ſend Troops to *Holſtein* or *Jutland*. The King of *Sweden* on his landing was to be joined with twenty-five thouſand Men of the *Czar*'s in *Mecklenburgh*.

The *Engliſh* Court, having conceived ſome Jealouſy on Account of ſome of the *Chevalier de St. George*'s Adherents being at *Mittau*, diſpatched Perſons who could be confided in to the Courts of *Sweden* and *Ruſſia*, to penetrate, if practicable, into whatever ſecret Intrigues might be carrying on there. One Mr. *Jeffries* was of the Number, who repaired to *Peterſburg* in order to pry into any ſecret Tranſactions, not being charged with any particular Buſineſs there.

The King of *Sweden*, during theſe Tranſactions, beſieged *Frederickſhal* in *Norway*, a ſtrong Place, and looked upon as the Key of that

that Kingdom. The Siege was carried on vigorously, and with so much Success, that the *Swedes* were Masters of the Fort called *Guldenlew*. But the King growing impatient, tho' assured by the Engineer who directed the Siege, that the Town must surrender in a few Days, obstinately determined to advance to the Extremity of the Approaches, to reconnoitre what the Enemy was about; where, as he was leaning over the Parapet, he received a Shot in the Head by a Ball weighing Half a Pound. He died instantly. This fatal Catastrophe happened on the 11th of *December*, 1718.

This Monarch's Death gave a new Complexion to the Politics of the *North*, and caused a Change in Affairs over *Europe*. For those to whom the deceased King had given so much Umbrage, began to pity the wretched Situation of *Sweden*, and resolved not to let it be a Prey to *Russian* Incursions. For which Purpose the famous Quadruple-Alliance was concluded in the Month of *August*. By these Proceedings the *Czar* found himself not only deserted by his Allies, but that they they had gone over to his Enemy; which compelled him, through the necessary Law of Self-defence, to put his long-meditated Project of a Descent on *Sweden* in Execution; which Expedition he carried on with the utmost Vigour.

His High-Admiral *Apraxin* was sent with a considerable Fleet of Ships and Gallies (having

ving on board a ſtrong Body of Troops) to the *Swediſh* Coaſt, where they ſteered their Courſe towards the Iſlands of *Dallers*. There they landed ſome Troops, and made many Priſoners. They burnt and deſtroyed wherever they went; they then purſued their Way towards *Sudertelge*, having left *Stockholm* on the Left. At *Sudertelge* they deſtroyed all the Copper-Mines, burnt the Furnaces, Houſes, and the Woods in the Neighbourhood. They afterwards ſailed to *Landſort*, and there took ſeveral *Dutch* Ships laden with Grain for *Stockholm* from *Koningſberg*. A Party of their *Coſſacks*, having marched within three Leagues of that Capital, were met by ſome *Swediſh* advanced Troops, whom they routed, making ſeveral of them Priſoners.

A general Conſternation was cauſed hereby among all Ranks of People in *Stockholm*. Wherefore General *Ducker*, with the hereditary Prince of *Heſſe Caſſel*, marched with ſome Troops as far as *Waxholm*, where they got Intelligence of the Enemy's having thirty thouſand Land-Forces on board, ready for an Invaſion. In conſequence of this alarming Information, the Prince marched with the *Swediſh* Army, conſiſting of near fourteen thouſand Men to *Tuna*, above four Leagues diſtant from *Stockholm*. The *Swediſh* Generals omitted no Precaution in order to oppoſe the *Ruſſians*; but being neceſſitated to divide their Forces, ſending them here and there in Parties, they had not a ſufficient Number to at-

tack the Enemy, ſo all the Country round was ravaged in their Sight: The *Ruſſians* returned laden with Booty, driving all the Cattle before them.

The Terrors of *Stockholm* were ſomewhat removed, by Advice of Admiral *Norris* having arrived in the *Sound* with a Squadron. The *Ruſſians*, notwithſtanding, continued their Hoſtilities, taking ſeveral Ships laden with Proviſion for *Stockholm*; they then ſet fire to ſeveral Places. Having carried off all they could, they cauſed as much Deſtruction towards the North, burning Towns, Villages, *&c.* They entirely deſtroyed the Iſland of *Sodiroun*, all the Country near *Boertiles*; the Towns of *Oxegrund*, and *Oſtkamer*, with the Country of *Hokoywood*; where, to the immenſe Loſs of the ruined Inhabitants, the beſt Iron-Mines in *Sweden* were entirely deſtroyed.

Theſe dreadful Calamities *Sweden* found itſelf unable to put a Stop to, tho' Marſhal *Ducker*'s poſitive Orders were, That all *Ruſſians* taken committing ſuch Outrages, ſhould be thrown into the Flames without any Form of Trial.

Admiral *Apraxin* deſtroyed in this cruel Expedition ſix Towns, eleven Palaces, one hundred and nine Gentlemen's Seats, eight hundred and twenty-ſix Farms, three Mills, ten Magazines, two Copper-Furnaces, and five of Iron. Major General *Lacy*'s Share of the Havock among the *Swedes*, were two Towns, twenty-one Gentlemens Seats, five hundred and

and thirty-five Farms, forty Mills, ſixteen Magazines, and nine Iron Furnaces: One of which was ſo valuable, that the Proprietors offered (to ſave it from Ruin) three hundred thouſand Rix-dollars; but their Offers were rejected.

The Plunderers of *Ruſſia* took away Copper, Iron, and every Thing portable; but threw into the Sea what they could not carry with them. The *Czar*'s Motive to cauſe ſuch a Devaſtation, was in Hopes that it would reduce the *Swedes* to come into his Terms; and which, tho' they had ſuffered ſo much, when propoſed a-new to them by *Oſterman*, in the *Czar*'s Name, were rejected.

The *Czar*, having executed all he intended for this Campaign, retired within his own Ports, without any Lett or Impediment from Admiral *Norris* and the *Engliſh* Fleet.

The *Czar*, however, having received an Intimation that his late Ally, *George* I. King of *Great Britain*, and Elector of *Hanover*, was become his Enemy, and intended that his Fleet, in Conjunction with the *Swediſh*, ſhould oppoſe all ulterior Operations of the *Ruſſians*, gave Orders that all the *Engliſh* Merchants throughout his Territories ſhould be put under Arreſt; menacing, that if the *Engliſh* Nation entered into the War againſt him, he would confiſcate all their Effects, valued at ſeveral Millions, and ſent Inſtructions to Mr. *Weſſeloſky* at *London* to publiſh a Memorial, there, declaring his Intentions, and reproaching the

Britiſh Court, for having violated Treaties ſubſiſting between it and *Ruſſia*; which was replied to by the King, Elector of *Hanover*, and filled with Reproaches of ſome unfair Dealing towards him on the *Czar*'s Side, relative to the *Chevalier de St. George* and his Adherents.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty having been informed that, notwithſtanding all his Vigilance and Care, many Perſons of Rank had been guilty of enormous Malverſations, found it incumbent on him to grant a new Commiſſion, to examine into the Truth, and made a very ſtrenuous and pathetic Diſcourſe on the Occaſion. The Tribunal, in Obedience to his Directions, examined to the laſt Rigour and Severity of the Law.

To the great Aſtoniſhment of moſt People, amongſt the Tranſgreſſors were, Prince *Menzekoff*, the *Czar*'s Favourite, the Preſident of the Senate, Prince *James Dolgoruky*, and *Apraxin*, the High-Admiral, with ſeveral more. Prince *Menzekoff*, being the firſt impleaded, and confronted with his Impeachers, was proved guilty of embezzling the Royal Treaſure. He was ordered to yield up his Sword, and prepare for his Sentence.

Old Prince *Dolgoruky* was cited before the Tribunal next; but he ſpoke on his own Behalf with ſo much Energy, that the Judges did not think proper to proceed farther againſt him, without having the *Czar*'s Opinion. *Apraxin*, the High-Admiral, was found guilty, and

and condemned to be degraded from his Office, with Confiſcation of his whole Eſtate and Effects, and to remain Priſoner in his own Houſe until farther Orders. Others were ſentenced to loſe Life and Fortune; and of the very numerous Liſt of Culprits, none got releaſed from their Sentence, but by paying Fines equivalent to the Damages they had been proved guilty of.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty, in Conſideration of the Services of *Menzekoff*, *Dolgoruky*, and *Apraxin*, ordered each to pay a conſiderable Fine, and forgave them. Amongſt the many uſeful Works he had erected, he cauſed an Obſervatory, like that of *Paris*, to be built in the Iſland called *Waſel Oſterow*, on the River *Neva*; and there he had his Chamber of Curioſities, and the grand Imperial Library.

The *Czar* was greatly affected at receiving the melancholy News of the Death of *Czarowich Peter*, his only Son and preſumptive Heir of the *Ruſſian* Throne; ſo that there now remained but the Son of the late *Czarowich Alexis*, (called alſo *Peter*) of his Male Iſſue. He allowed a Convent for the Capuchin Friars to be built, and permitted others of the *Romiſh* Eccleſiaſtics to live in his Dominions; but abſolutely excluded the *Jeſuits*. And his Orders were very explicit on that Head, that if any were either openly, or in Diſguiſe, within his Territories, they ſhould depart forthwith; and this was in conſequence of their having abetted the falſe *Demetrius* in

his Pretenſions to the *Ruſſian* Empire; ſince which Period they had been baniſhed from that Empire.

Having learned from the Council of Finances, how ſcarce Money was, and their Inability of anſwering his Draughts, he ordered the late-raiſed Sum of Money from the Delinquents all over the Nation, which was valued at ſome Millions of good Silver, to be mixed with an Alloy of Copper, to the Value of a Fifth; which, of all the current Coin in his Territories, brought Twenty *per Cent.* into his Treaſury. The Merchants remonſtrated, but to no Purpoſe; the Exigencies of the State were alledged againſt their Reaſons.

The *Czar*, who loved to laugh in the Hours he was freed from the ſerious Employment of not only governing, but new-modelling ſo extenſive an Empire, created a new King of the *Samoides*, an uncivilized and ſavage Nation, living beyond *Archangel*, in the North-Eaſt Parts towards the *Frozen Sea*. This new-fangled King was of *Jewiſh* Extraction, and a Native of *Portugal*.

He had contrived to be introduced on ſome Pretence or other to *Czar Peter*, when at *Hamburgh*, who, being pleaſed with his Drollery, admitted him into his Service in quality of Jeſter; and he ſo well-timed his Jeſts, as to get himſelf created a Count ſome Time after. The *Czar* kept ſeveral Buffoons about his Court to the great Mortification of the old-faſhion'd *Ruſſians*, whom they uſed to teaze and

and play Tricks on. All the *Czar*'s Anſwer to their Complaints was, "What can be done "with Fools?"

In the Year 1720, the *Czar* having obſerved the advantageous Situation of *Rogerwick*, ordered a Port to be conſtructed there, tho' at the ſame Time he was carrying on the Canal of *Ladoga*, a moſt commendable and uſeful Deſign; by the Intermediation of which, a Communication was to be opened between the *Caſpian Sea* and the *Ocean*. Theſe were his Occupations in the interior Part of his Kingdom. In regard to the Exterior, ſeeing himſelf deſerted by his Allies, through the Intrigues of the *Britiſh* Court, he took all neceſſary Meaſures to purſue alone the War againſt *Sweden*, now ſtrengthened by the Money and Fleets of *England*, and the friendly Concurrence of the *Daniſh*, *Pruſſian*, and other Courts. At the ſame Time that he ſent a ſtrong Fleet to give Laws in the Gulph of *Bothnia*, he ſent twenty-four thouſand Infantry and Dragoons to march into the Northern Parts of *Sweden*, through *Finland*.

In the Beginning of the Year 1720 the *Poliſh* Diet being aſſembled, commiſſioned the Palatine of *Maſovia*, as Ambaſſador to the *Czar*, who, according to his Inſtructions, was to demand adequate Reparation for the many Damages committed on their Nation, by the Marches and Counter-marches of the *Ruſſian* Forces, the grinding Contributions they had raiſed, and the many other unwarrantable Ex-

tortions, ſuch as driving with them their Horſes, Cattle, *&c.* That the Republic, from a peaceable Diſpoſition (though ſhe had been ſo atrociouſly uſed) choſe this mild Method of demanding a ſuitable Reſtitution, rather than to permit their Nobility to take the Field on Horſeback, in Queſt of proper Satisfaction, by firſt driving out of the *Poliſh* Territories the *Ruſſians* remaining there, contrary to what had been agreed upon.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty, in order not to provoke any more Enemies againſt him, thought it highly incumbent to act prudently with the Republic of *Poland*, leſt they alſo (to renew their Pretenſions on *Courland* and *Livonia*) ſhould make a ſeparate Peace with *Sweden*, and conſequently take Part in the War. Wherefore, having given proper Inſtructions, he intruſted this important Negotiation to his Ambaſſor at the Court of *Poland*, Prince *Dolgoruky*.

After ſeveral Debates upon, and Remonſtrances of mutual Grievances, *Dolgoruky* was informed by the Deputies of the Republic, that their unanimous Intention was to concur with the Queen of *Sweden*'s pacific Diſpoſitions, ſhe having made proper Overtures thereto; that they intreated his *Czariſh* Majeſty either to conclude a Peace, or to free them from their Alliance, making a farther Offer of their Mediation, and declaring that they wiſhed nothing ſo much as to live in Harmony with him. Purſuant to this Declaration,

tion, the Elector Palatine of *Maſovia*, the *Poliſh* Ambaſſador, on the 5th of *March* made his public Entry at *St. Peterſburgh*, in great State, and on the 7th had a public Audience.

The Palatine of *Maſovia*, in ſome Conferences with the *Ruſſian* Miniſtry, was given to underſtand that the *Czar* would not depart from his Pretenſions on *Courland*, and much leſs from them on *Lovonia*; that the Town of *Dantzick* muſt accompliſh the Agreement ſtipulated by her on one Part, and by his Generals on the other; and that, whether the *Czar* were indebted to the Republic, or they to him, ſhould be referred to the Council of the Finances.

Whilſt theſe Tranſactions were carried on at *St. Peterſburgh*, Peace was concluded at *Stockholm* between that Court and the King of *Pruſſia*. In the Aſſembly of the States of the Kingdom, the Queen reſigned the Crown in Favour of the Prince of *Heſſe-Caſſel*, her Huſband, who was proclaimed King in conſequence. In regard to the *Czar*, this wore no peaceable Complexion. The *Britiſh* Court ſtood very well with the Regent of *France*, who had engaged to continue the annual Subſidy of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty to the Crown of *Sweden*; which Sum of ſix hundred thouſand Crowns, added to that remitted from *Hanover* and *Great Britain*, ſo ſpirited up the *Swedes*, that they declared the *Czar* ſhould not have Peace on his own Terms, as he had wantonly fancied.

But this Exertion of Spirits could produce no mighty Effect, becauſe *Sweden* was drained both of Proviſions and Men; and there was no continuing War againſt the *Ruſſians*, unleſs her new Allies could ſupply her with both. The *Ruſſian* Fleets and Troops being conſtantly in Readineſs, any projected Expedition could be accompliſhed by them, before the *Engliſh* Fleet could arrive to the Succour of *Sweden*.

As ſoon as the Seaſon permitted, a Squadron, under the Command of Admiral *Norris*, appeared before *Copenhagen*, with Orders to join the Fleet of *Sweden*. But, to remove all Suſpicions that this Fleet from *Great-Britain* had ſailed into the *Baltick* with any other View than to ſecond the *Britiſh* Court's Mediation, to bring about a Reconciliation between the new King of *Sweden* and his *Czariſh* Majeſty, as had been already effected between the King of *Sweden*, and the *Daniſh* and *Pruſſian* Courts, Admiral *Norris* wrote a Letter to Prince *Dolgorouky*, at the Court of *Denmark*, and this before he ſailed from *Copenhagen*, who wrote him a very pertinent Anſwer, and the offered Mediation of *Great-Britain* was rejected.

There being no open Rupture between the Courts of *Ruſſia* and *Great-Britain*, the *Czar* could not ſee any plauſible Reaſon for an *Engliſh* Squadron's intermeddling in his Affairs; not that it intimidated him in the leaſt, but rather ſpurred him on to the Execution of his Project. About this Time an Adjutant-General

General to the King of *Sweden* arrived at *St. Peterſburg* to notify to the *Czar* of *Muſcovy* his Maſter's Acceſſion to the Throne of *Sweden*; he was admitted to an Audience, and having declared the King his Maſter's ardent Deſire of living in Peace and Friendſhip with the *Czar*, he in his Anſwer to the Ambaſſador, declared himſelf to be in a quite ſimilar Diſpoſition, and politically detained that Officer for ſome Days, that he might make a faithful Report of the *Ruſſian* Preparations. He ordered that his Fleets and Army ſhould be ſhewn to him, intimating thereby that he was able to ſupport his Cauſe alone, though forſaken by his Allies. Which done, the uſual Paſſports were diſpatched for that Officer's Return to *Sweden*.

To give a convincing Proof to the World that he was not in the leaſt afraid of his new Enemies, the *Czar* thought it incumbent on him to undertake ſome Enterprize by Sea: For which Purpoſe, on the 7th of *Auguſt* the Fleet which he had diſpatched to the *Bothnic* Gulph, then lying under *Lumland*, and commanded by Prince *Galitzen*, was attacked by the *Swediſh*, who did not apprehend the *Ruſſian* Fleet to be ſo ſtrong as it really was. The Battle was obſtinately fought on both Sides for ſome Hours. The *Swedes* were at laſt compelled to retreat, after having loſt four Ships, above an hundred and forty Pieces of Cannon; their Number of Killed and Wounded amounted to eight hundred.

His

His *Czariſh* Majeſty having made a triumphant Entry on Account of this Victory, ordered a Medal to be ſtruck, with a Sea-Fight on one Side, and his Effigies on the other, with this Inſcription, *Courage and Prudence conquer every Difficulty.* He made a Preſent of a Sword ſet with Diamonds to Prince *Galitzen*, and proportionate ones to all the Officers and Soldiers, as a Reward of their Bravery. Beſides this Action, Prince *Galitzen* had detached Parties who acquitted themſelves by plundering and devaſting the Places they were ſent to.

At the ſame Time that theſe Hoſtilities were ſo vigorouſly carried on, his *Czariſh* Majeſty diſpatched Adjutant-General *Romanzoff* to the King of *Sweden* to return the Compliment on his Majeſty's Acceſſion to the Throne of that Kingdom, and aſſure him of the *Czar*'s unfeigned Eſteem for his Royal Perſon, wiſhing him to be in the ſame peaceable Diſpoſitions he was. *Romanzoff* was alſo charged with a Commiſſion for the Exchange of Priſoners, and a Ceſſation of Arms during the Winter, if agreeable to the *Swedes.*

The *Ruſſian* Envoy, *Romanzoff*, met with as kind a Reception at *Stockholm*, as the *Swediſh* Envoy had received at *St. Peterſburgh.* The *Swedes*, who are the moſt jealous People in *Europe*, or perhaps in the World, being informed that the Duke of *Holſtein* had entered into an epiſtolary Commerce with the *Czar*; having, beſides, a conſiderable Party in *Sweden*,

den, who judged his Right to the Throne of that Kingdom prior to the Prince of *Heſſe-Caſſel*, a Damp was thrown on all Propoſals from the Side of *Ruſſia*.

The *Czar*, having a juſt Foundation to believe the *Swedes* entirely averſe from all Thoughts of Peace, determined to make tremendous military Preparations for the enſuing Campaign, in order to compel them thereto. He alſo iſſued his Orders for ſeveral large Veſſels, from ſeventy to eighty Guns, to be built at *St. Peterſburgh*, reſolved to repel Force by Force, in caſe the *Engliſh* Fleet ſhould return to the *Northern Seas* to act offenſively againſt him.

A Reſident entertained by the Duke of *Holſtein* at *St. Peterſburgh*, ſollicited the Protection of the *Czar* for his injured Maſter, who being the eldeſt Siſter's Son, thought his Right prior to that of the younger Princeſs *Ulrica*; and that the *Swedes* having baniſhed lineal Government, by making their Crown elective, was a forcible, but not a legal Reaſon to exclude him.

The *Czar*, from his wonted Generoſity, not only granted him his Protection, but accompanied it with a Preſent of one hundred thouſand Rix-Dollars, and an Invitation to repair to *Ruſſia*.

Adjutant-General *Romanzoff* in the frequent Conferences he had with Count *Horn*, in the Year 1721, gave him iterated Aſſurances of the *Czar*'s unfeigned and warm Deſires

ſires for a Peace; and that no Enemy of his could feel more than he did for the Devaſtations in *Sweden*, which Self-Preſervation compelled him to every Year, ſtill hoping, in vain, that its Monarch would deſiſt from reſiſting the reaſonable Terms of Pacification which he had propoſed.

All the Proteſtations were at laſt ſeriouſly attended to by Count *Horn*; and, tho' General *Romanzoff* had no Orders to enter into Particulars, yet when he returned to *St. Peterſburgh*, he gave the *Czar* to underſtand, that he believed a Cartel would not be diſagreeable to the *Swedes*. Whereupon, that he might learn what Terms would be agreeable to them, he ſent Prince *Megerſky* to *Stockholm*.

The *Swediſh* Miniſtry were convinced of the *Czar*'s pacific Intentions, by this condeſcending Procedure; and alſo of their Inability, (notwithſtanding their new-acquired Allies) to repel his Forces; therefore, to ſave the Kingdom from utter Ruin, they inclined to Peace; and the Mediation of *France* being acceptable to both the *Ruſſian* and the *Swediſh* Courts, a ſmall Town in *Finland*, a few Leagues diſtant from *Abo*, called *Nieſtadt*, was fixed upon as a proper Place for the Congreſs to be held, where Plenipotentiaries from the reſpective Powers were appointed to meet.

General *Stromfield* and Count *Lillienſted* repaired thither on the Part of the King of *Sweden*; as did alſo the Privy-Counſellor *Oſterman*

Oſterman and General *Bruce*, on the Part of his *Czariſh* Majeſty. In the mean Time the Duke of *Holſtein*, who had repaired to the *Ruſſian* Court, was moſt graciouſly received, and the *Czar* made the ſtrongeſt Profeſſions of Friendſhip to him.

Inaſmuch as the Congreſs was not carried on with ſo much Earneſtneſs as the *Czar* expected, he ordered his General, *Lacy*, at the Head of ſix thouſand *Ruſſians* and *Coſſacks* to let Havock looſe, as he was determined to be no longer trifled with, which he executed. The *Czar* ſent him Orders to ſtop as ſoon as he had received Advice of the *Swedes* having agreed to the Articles of Peace; he having granted ſome Conceſſions on his Side.

At *St. Petersburgh* and *Moſcow* the Rejoicings for this Peace were very great. The *Czar* on this Occaſion made Preſents to the Plenipotentiaries of *Sweden*; to the Secretary of the Embaſſy, two thouſand Rubles; to the firſt Plenipotentiary ten thouſand; and eight ditto, to the ſecond.

The *Czar*, who hated an idle Life, as ſoon as the Rejoicings were over, made ſeveral new Regulations for the public Weal, which was always uppermoſt in his Thoughts. The Work of the great Canal was ſtill carrying on, in which he employed twenty thouſand Men.

His *Czariſh* Majeſty having ſent a Notification to all the Powers with whom he was in Friendſhip, of the Peace of *Nieſtadt*, they in return commanded their Miniſters to congratulate

tulate him on that happy Occaſion, in their Names; at which Time Vice Chancellor *Sheremetoff* embraced the Opportunity of intimating to each of them the *Czar*'s Deſire of having the Title of Emperor, which not only his faithful Subjects and the Senate, but all the States of the Empire, had concurred in entreating his Acceptance of. He aſſerted, that the *Czar*'s Pretenſions thereto were not groundleſs; to authenticate which, he exhibited to them the printed Copy of a Letter, wrote to the *Czar of Muſcovy* by the Emperor *Maximilian*; and produced at the ſame Time corroborating Originals from the Republic of *Venice*, their Majeſties of *Great-Britain* and *Spain*; wherein the *Ruſſian* Sovereigns had been addreſſed to by the Title of Emperor.

About the End of *November*, *Czar Peter*, from a due Regard to his moſt faithful Subjects reiterated Intreaties, and a Reſpect to to which he had an indiſputable Right, gave Orders for his Titles being thus diſplayed in all foreign Letters and Negotiations whatſoever, *&c.*

Peter I. By the Grace of God, Sovereign and Emperor of all *Ruſſia*, of *Moſcovy*, *Kiow*, *Wolodimer*, and *Great Novogroa*; King of *Caſan*, *Douria*, *Siberia*, and *Aſtracan*; Lord of *Pleſkow*; Duke of *Carelia*, *Eaſtonia*, *Livonia*, *Winta*, *Bulgaria*, *Pernia*, *Tweer*, &c. Great Duke of *Reſan*, *Czernichow*, *Niſinovogrod*, *Bielozirow*, *Jeroſlaw*, *Roſtow*, *Condotia*, *Obdoria*,

Obdoria, and *Smolenſko*; and to the Frontiers of *China*, Supreme over all the northern Parts: Hereditary Lord and Poſſeſſor of *Cabardia*, *Czhorraſſia*, *Gorſky*, and *Georgia*, &c. &c. Theſe ſeveral Titles were acknowledged by the States of *Holland*, the King of *Pruſſia*, and the *Grand Signior*, among the Firſt; others waited for the Example of their Neighbours. The *Pruſſian* Monarch's Acknowledgment of the *Czar*'s Imperial Dignity was declared from him in a moſt obliging Harangue by his Miniſter at the *Ruſſian* Court.

The Court of *Denmark* demurred to acknowledge the *Czar* as Emperor, fearing leſt that by the high Title of Imperial Majeſty, he ſhould think of a Right to a free Paſſage through the *Sound*, which would be of bad Conſequence to the *Daniſh* Revenue; as other Powers, at leaſt equally ſtrong at Sea as the *Ruſſians* were, might alſo claim the ſame Privilege; and to add to theſe Reaſons, there was a private Grudge, on account of the *Czar*'s having declined the Execution of certain Meaſures, ſuch as the Deſcent on *Schonen*, &c. which had heretofore been agreed on by the two Courts.

The Emperor of *Ruſſia* being reſolved that his faithful Subjects of *Moſcow* ſhould in a particular Manner celebrate the Rejoicings for the late Peace, had notified to them, that he intended to enter that City in Triumph, where all ſuitable Preparations were made for the great Honour he intended them.

On

On the 17th of *December*, 1722, his Imperial Majeſty ſet out for *Moſcow*, attended by all his Courtiers, and accompanied by the foreign Miniſters. He entered the City through the firſt triumphal Arch, at the Head of his Regiment of Guards, as Colonel; he then proceeded towards the ſecond Arch; there, at the Head of the Clergy, the Archbiſhop of *Novogrod* harangued him; after the Harangue he marched to the Third, which Prince *Menzekoff* had erected; at the Fourth, Prince *Trubetſkoy*, at the Head of the Magiſtracy, harangued him; all the Guns fired during the March: and at Night, Fireworks, Illuminations, and all other Demonſtrations of Joy were exhibited. Feaſts, and all manner of Diverſions ſucceeded, which laſted above a Week; during which Time, the Emperor of *Ruſſia* (never loſing Sight of the public Good) made ſeveral neceſſary Regulations in the Police, the Army, Coin, Navigation, and Commerce. His principal Scheme at this Juncture, was to ſettle what he had ſo much at Heart, the Succeſſion.

The Emperor *Peter*, in order to ſuccour *Selim* IV. the diſtreſſed *Shah* of *Perſia*, and to puniſh the Inſolence of *Miriweis* the Uſurper, ſome of whoſe Banditti had not only plundered, but maſſacred *Ruſſian* Merchants on ſeveral Occaſions, publiſhed his Mandate for the immediate aſſembling of a conſiderable Army of *Calmucks*, *Coſſacks*, and *Tartars*, to be joined by twenty-four Thouſand of his beſt diſciplined

diſciplined Troops, whom he reſolved to command in Perſon. He alſo iſſued his Orders for a ſufficient Number of Tranſport Veſſels to be got ready at *Aſtracan*, with all Expedition. Before he left *Moſcow*, he eſtabliſhed a Regency, and regular Poſts between *Moſcow* and *Aſtracan*. He alſo left Orders, that all Merchant Ships were to be diſpatched in Preference to any other Buſineſs, and that no Injuſtice ſhould be done, without ſuch Offenders incurring the Penalty of an adequate Value to the Ship and Cargo. He ſet out from *Moſcow* with his Empreſs *Katharine*, by the Way of *Colomna*, intending to travel on the River *Wolga*, to *Aſtracan*. To which Place *Apraxin*, the High Admiral, and others, had been diſpatched before, to forward the Preparations.

Tho' the Emperor of *Ruſſia* was intent upon this new War, as remote as important, he did not neglect taking proper Meaſures for the Safety of the *Ruſſian* Empire in his Abſence. Admiral *Gordon* put to Sea with a Fleet, in which were embarked the Troops of *Livonia*, *Ukraine*, and *Courland*, and continued moving from one Place to another, without having any determined Enterprize in View, but in order to deter the neighbouring Powers from attempting any thing during the Emperor's Abſence.

The Preparations making at *Aſtracan*, and in the Eaſtern Provinces of the *Ruſſian* Empire, alarmed the *Turks*; but their Uneaſineſs was removed by a Manifeſto, which his Imperial

perial Majeſty ordered to be publiſhed and diſperſed over the *Perſian* Dominions, declaratory of his upright Intentions to aſſiſt an injured Monarch, and chaſtiſe an inſolent Uſurper.

The *Ruſſian* Fleet, conſiſting of two Hundred and Seventy-four Veſſels of all Kinds, ſailed the 29th of *July*, at Seven o' Clock at Night; reached the Mouth of the *Wolga* on the 30th, and *Schetire Bogori* on the 31ſt, kept its Courſe *Auguſt* 1ſt, and caſt Anchor the 2d, near *Gniley-Lapugia*. The Fleet weighed Anchor on the 3d, and arrived at *Souetkin* towards Night; it ſailed early on the 4th, and anchored in the Afternoon before the River *Terki*.

The Emperor of *Ruſſia* received Advice on the 6th in the Morning, that Brigadier *Veteran*, who had been diſpatched over Land, with a Party of Dragoons towards *Andreoff*, without having committed the leaſt Hoſtility on his Side, had been attacked by the Inhabitants, but he repulſed them with ſo much Reſolution, that he made himſelf Maſter of the Town, and after his Soldiers had pillaged, he burnt it. It was but badly fortified, and contained near four Thouſand Houſes.

No other Place in *Dangiſtan* offered any Reſiſtance againſt the *Ruſſians*; *Veteran*, after joining Major-General *Cropotow*, who had marched from *Aſtracan*, in a few Days came to the Army. The *Ruſſian* Fleet having entered the Bay, and near to the *Port*, *Simonoff*

monoff was diſpatched to reconnoitre a proper Place for landing, and as near to the Mouth of the River *Agrachan* as poſſible. On the 7th the Fleet arrived there; the Signal for landing was given on the 8th at Six a Clock in the Morning, which was ſo expeditiouſly done, that before Noon all the Infantry was landed, notwithſtanding ſeveral intervening Impediments.

A kind of Fortification was raiſed on the 11th, but not finiſhed untill the 15th, in order to cover the Ships. The whole Army marched towards *Tarku* early on the 16th, and left but two Hundred Soldiers and a Thouſand *Coſſacks* with the Sick, under the Command of a Lieutenant Colonel. About Three in the Afternoon of the 17th, the Army having reached the River *Soulack*, they croſſed over it on Bridges of Boats.

The Emperor of *Ruſſia* was invited here by two *Perſian* Princes, to wit, *Sultan Mahomet*, and the Proprietor of *Gorſky*; the former brought an Hundred Oxen for the Army, and ſix fine *Perſian* Horſes for his Imperial Majeſty; the latter brought him ſix hundred Waggons, drawn by Oxen, for the Baggage, an Hundred and Fifty fat Cattle for the Uſe of the Army, and three beautiful *Perſian* Horſes, richly capariſoned, for the Emperor.

The Army was occupied till the 21ſt in getting over their Horſes and Baggage; they marched the 22d. The *Coſſacks* and *Dragoons* led the Van. The Rear waited for the coming up

up of Proviſions from the Entrenchments. They continued their March unmoleſted till the 30th, being then in the Dominions of *Sultan Mahomet Udenich*, to whom his Imperial Majeſty diſpatched three *Coſſacks*, in order that he ſhould ſend Deputies to confer with, and receive his Orders. But the *Coſſacks*, their Guide on his Return reported, had not only been very ill received, and maletreated, but that he could give no Account of them.

The *Sultan* in Perſon advanced at the Head of a great Body, about Three in the Afternoon, attacked firſt the *Coſſacks* and than the *Dragoons*, who handled them very roughly; they killed five hundred of his Men, took thirty-nine Priſoners, and drove him out of the Field. The Emperor gave Orders for the *Sultan*'s Place of Reſidence being pillaged and ſet Fire to; and ſeveral Villages were ruined in the ſame Manner. In one of them the three *Coſſacks* were found inhumanly maſſacred. His Majeſty was ſo incenſed at this, that he ordered the Priſoners to be put to the Torture, without paying any Regard to the high Rank of ſome of them. They declared their Ignorance of the Cauſe of ſuch Cruelty; that it was perpetrated by the *Sultan*'s Commands. They declared he had brought ten thouſand Men into the Field, and that he was able to raiſe an equal Number to that, without any Difficulty.

Twenty-one of the Priſoners were executed the 1ſt of *September*, by way of Repriſal for the

the three maſſacred *Coſſacks*. A Priſoner, whoſe Noſe and Ears had been cut cut off, was ſent with a Letter by his Imperial Majeſty, to the *Sultan*, in which he was upbraided with Rebellion, Tyranny, and Barbarity. On the Side of the *Ruſſians*, the Loſs did not exceed an hundred Men killed and wounded. They continued their March on the 2d, near to the River *Darbach*, where the Inhabitants of *Baku* ſollicited the *Czar*'s Protection for themſelves and their Country, both which they had defended for two Years againſt the Rebels. The Army purſued its March on the 3d, and encamped near *Derbent*.

The Governor of this Town met his Imperial Majeſty, in order to preſent him the Keys, which were of Silver; the *Ruſſian* Army marched through the Town, under a triple Diſcharge of all the Guns, and then proceeded to encamp near the Sea. There was an hundred and ſeventy-eight Iron, and ſixty Braſs Guns on the Ramparts of this Town, where Ammunition alſo was in great Plenty. The *Ruſſians* were as joyfully received here, as if it had been their own Country.

His Imperial Majeſty continued there for ſome Time, regulating ſeveral Affairs, whilſt the greateſt Part of the Army moved towards the River *Milonkenti*, fifteen Werſts diſtant from *Derbent*. The Emperor, apprehenſive of a Deficiency of Proviſions, ſhould he make any farther Progreſs, on account of the Country's having been moſtly ravaged by *Miriweis's*

Perſian

Perſian and *Tartar* Adherents, and alſo of the Seaſon's being ſo far ſpent, ſtopt his Conqueſt at the above-mentioned River for this Year.

Having left in *Derbent* a ſufficient Body of Troops, he returned to *Aſtracan*, and obſerving near *Soulack*, a more commodious Place for Embarkation, than that in the Bay of *Agrachan*, he ordered the Building of a Fort there, to be called *Holy Croſs*. The Emperor proclaimed his Orders on the 25th of *September*, for four thouſand *Calmucks*, and one thouſand *Coſſacks*, in Conjunction with the *Boinacs*, faithful Subjects to the *Shah*, to ravage and ſet Fire to the Countries belonging to *Mahomet Sultan* of *Udenick*, and the *Perſian Uſurper*, the only Powers who had oppoſed the March of the *Ruſſians*.

According to their Orders, they ſpread Devaſtation, ſlaughtered Numbers, and then repaired to the Bay of *Agrachan*, with a conſiderable Booty, and near five hundred Priſoners, beſides as many Horſes and Cattle as they were able to drive before them. The Emperor embarked for *Aſtracan* with his Foot, and the Horſe marched thither by Land, after this ſucceſsful Expedition; during which, the Uſurper *Miriweis* did all he could to oppoſe the Emperor *Peter*'s Progreſs, but in vain. That victorious Hero, having the Keys of *Derbent* carried before him, made a triumphant Entry into *Moſcow*: And having as earneſt an Eye to Juſtice, as to Glory, he diſcovered that (notwithſtanding all his ſalutary Inſtructions,)

Inſtitutions) manifold Abuſes had been committed by ſeveral of the principal Perſonages employed under him; for which, moſt of them were ſentenced to large pecuniary Mulcts.

The moſt conſpicuous of the Culprits, was Vice-Chancellor *Shafferoff*, one who had done great Service to the Emperor, and was moreover his Favourite. A Multiplicity of lawleſs Proceedings being laid to his Charge, he was put to the Rack, and having confeſſed his Guilt, was ſentenced to be beheaded, and carried to the Place of Execution. But in the Moment the Executioner was going to give the Blow, a Herald appeared, crying aloud, by his Imperial Majeſty's Command, "A Par-" don for Life."

The Emperor deſired the Senate which was then aſſembled, that on Account of the former Services this fallen Man had rendered to him, and to the Empire, his Sentence ſhould be changed from Death to perpetual Exile in *Siberia*, being deprived of his Eſtate and Effects, and degraded from all Honours.

Orders being given for the March of the neceſſary Troops, with Ammunition, Artillery and Proviſions for the next Campaign, in the Beginning of *March* 1723, the Emperor, with his Conſort and all the Court, made a Tour to *Peterſburg*, and arrived about the 11th in that City. The Emperor, on his Arrival there, ordered a formidable Fleet of Ships and Gallies to be fitted out with all Expedition; the Pretext given out for ſo doing was

in order to exerciſe the Men; the real Deſtination of them being kept a Secret in the Emperor's Boſom. On the general Review he made of his Ships, having among the Number many good Veſſels that were uſeleſs to him, he came to a Reſolution of diſtributing them among the Towns of *Pernaw*, *Wiburg*, *Riga*, *Revel*, and *St. Peterſburg*, as an Encouragement to Trade. To each Veſſel he ordered twelve Men, eight at his Expence, and four at that of the reſpective Towns; which, in caſe any of thoſe Ships ſhould periſh, or be diſabled by Time, were to ſubſtitute others in their room, that the Number might always appear the ſame.

His Imperial Majeſty was highly pleaſed in finding his late Negotiations had ſucceeded ſo well as to have himſelf acknowledged Emperor by the *Swedes*, and that the Duke of *Holſtein* had got the Title of Royal Highneſs, for whom he intended the Imperial Princeſs his Daughter. Having ordered his Fleet to ſail to *Revel*, he there embarked in the Preſence of his Court and the foreign Miniſters. It conſiſted of forty Gallies, and twenty Ships of the Line. He returned from Sea to *Peterſburg* in about ſix Days, on the 8th of *Auguſt*. He then invited all the People of Diſtinction, and the foreign Miniſters to a Pleaſure-houſe at *Peterſhoff*.

A Plenipotentiary from *Perſia* arrived about this Time at *St. Peterſburgh*, and met with a magnificent Reception. After his firſt Audience

dience, and his Delivery of the *Shah*'s Letter, the Emperor enquired of him in what Station the King his Maſter was. To which Queſtion he anſwered with Tears, that he believed him dead, becauſe the young *Shah Tahmas* had confirmed his Commiſſion. He was told by the great Chancellor *Golofkin*, that an Anſwer would be prepared for him; after which he returned, and was conducted off with the ſame Ceremony that he was admitted to the Audience. Count *Apraxin*, who was appointed to do the Honours, entertained him at the Emperor's Table.

As his Imperial Majeſty was ſome Time after diverting himſelf at a Ball, to which the *Perſian* Ambaſſador had been invited, he received the agreeable News of *Baku*'s having ſurrendered; for Strength, Situation and Commerce, one of the moſt important Places on the *Caſpian* Sea: which was highly pleaſing to the Emperor, as well as to the Ambaſſador, who concluded an offenſive and defenſive Alliance with *Ruſſia*, by virtue of which he ceded for ever the Towns of *Derbent* and *Baku*, with their Appendages, and alſo the Province of *Aſterabat*, *Ghilan*, and *Mazanderan*, to his Imperial Majeſty.

The Emperor of *Ruſſia* on the other Hand bound himſelf to aſſiſt the *Shah* with his Forces, and not to forſake him until he ſhould reduce the Uſurper and all his rebellious Subjects, and make *Perſia* once more taſte the

Sweets of Peace. This Treaty was ſigned for the Emperor of *Ruſſia*, by

The Great Chancellor,	GOLOFKIN.
The Privy Counſellor,	ANDREW OSTERMAN.
The Counſellor of the Chancery,	BASIL STEPANOFF.

And for the King of *Perſia*, by his Ambaſſador, and Plenipotentiary,

ISHMAEL BEGH.

The *Perſian* Ambaſſador wanted to take his Audience of Leave, and return to his Maſter, immediately after the Treaty was ſigned; but the Emperor prevailed on him to ſojourn ſome time longer at *St. Peterſburgh*. In order that he ſhould partake of the Diverſions of the Seaſon of the Year. He had him conducted to all the Parties of Pleaſure, and alſo to ſee the Ships, Magazines, and Arſenals, *&c.*

On the 25th he was conducted to his laſt Audience in the ſame Manner he had made his public Entry: He approached the Imperial Throne, and kiſſed the Emperor's Hand, whoſe Letter to the *Shah* was delivered to him by the Great Chancellor, charging him, in his Imperial Majeſty's Name, to aſſure the *Shah* of the Emperor of *Ruſſia*'s unfeigned Friendſhip, and of his

his inviolable Reſolution to obſerve the Treaty between them.

Before the *Perſian* Ambaſſador retired, he made a brief Encomium of the Emperor of *Ruſſia*, extolling him above *Darius*, *Alexander the Great*, &c. with many other high-ſtrained Compliments in the Oriental Taſte, which *Iſhmel Begh* was not niggard of, having received very extraordinary Preſents from his *Ruſſian* Majeſty.

The *Ottoman* Court, when informed of the Treaty concluded between *Perſia* and *Ruſſia*, with the Contents thereof, could not conceal their Jealouſy and Uneaſineſs; wherefore Mr. *Neplieff*, his *Ruſſian* Majeſty's Ambaſſador at *Conſtantinople*, together with the *French*, M. *Bonac*, ſent immediate Information to *St. Peterſburgh* of the *Divan*'s Reſolutions, which ſeemed to be on the Point of declaring War againſt the *Ruſſians*.

In conſequence of this Advice, his *Ruſſian* Majeſty diſpatched a faithful Copy to his Miniſter at the *Ottoman* Court of the Treaty concluded between him and the young *Shah*, in order that it might be communicated to the *Grand Viſir*. By this candid Proceeding he invited the *Grand Signior* to accede to the ſame Treaty: and farther aſſured his Sublime Highneſs of his fixed Determination to religiouſly obſerve the laſt Treaty concluded between the *Porte* and him; proteſting that he had no other View in the laſt concluded Treaty with *Perſia*, than to ſuccour a Monarch

perſecuted by rebellious Subjects, who had unnaturally liſted againſt their lawful Sovereign, under the Banner of a deteſtable Uſurper. This Declaration had the deſired Effect, and a Treaty of Alliance againſt the Uſurper, *Miriweis*, was acceded to by the *Ottoman* Court.

The *Hettman* of the *Ukraine Coſſacks* dying about this Time, Prince *Galitzen* was appointed to ſucceed him by his Imperial Majeſty; whoſe prudent and ſage Government having eſtabliſhed Tranquility and Order throughout his extenſive Empire, he meant to execute a long-conceived Project, which was to have his Conſort the Empreſs *Katharine* ſolemnly crowned; for which Purpoſe his imperial Mandates were iſſued. But falling ſick of a violent Pain in his Stomach, he was confined to his Chamber for a Fortnight, which neceſſarily put off his Journey to *Moſcow*, till he ſhould recover Health ſufficient to undertake it.

Ever occupied about the Welfare of his Country, even during his Sickneſs he founded a new Academy of Sciences, to conſiſt of twelve Members, beſides a Secretary, a Librarian, and a dozen Students. This Academy was divided into three Claſſes; the Firſt for *Mathematics*, the Second for *Natural Philoſophy*, and the Third for *Belles Lettres*. As ſoon as he was recovered, he ordered all the foreign Miniſters to be ſummoned to Court, to whom aſſembled he notified his Departure from thence to *Moſcow*, to celebrate the Coronation of his Empreſs; for which Solemnity all Things having

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ing been prepared, the 18th of *May* was appointed. No Magnificence was ſpared, and the ſame Pomp was diſplayed, as if ſhe had been the firſt Monarch in the World's Daughter. The Eccleſiaſtics, Senators, the chief Perſonages of the Empire, with all the foreign Miniſters were preſent at the Ceremony.

After the grand Solemnity of the Coronation was over, the Emperor ordered twenty-four thouſand of his beſt Troops, beſides *Coſſacks* and *Tartars*, which amounted to ſixty thouſand more, with Proviſions, Ammunition and Artillery, to be embarked at *Aſtracan*, under Prince *Galitzen*, who was to command them in Chief as Auxiliaries to the *Shah*. He then left *Moſcow*, and returned with his whole Court to *St. Peterſburgh*, where he made ſeveral Promotions in the Land and Sea Service.

He made very wiſe Regulations in regard to the Benefices of the Clergy, from the Patriarch down to the Pariſh Prieſt. He limitted the Number of Convents, allowing a decent Subſiſtance to all, but no Extravagance to any. By this national Œconomy two thirds of the Church Revenues were added to his Treaſure, to the Joy of moſt People; none complaining but thoſe who by their Vows had renounced all *worldly Poſſeſſions*. Their Practice indeed was different. For the Benefit of Commerce and Trade, he eſtabliſhed a regular Packet-Boat, between *St. Peterſburgh* and *Lubeck*.

The

The ſuperb Rejoicings for the Empreſs's Corronation, and the betrothing of the Imperial Princeſs to the Duke of *Holſtein*, were ſcarce over, when the *Czar* was ſeized with the fatal Malady which hurried him out of this Life. The *Chriſtmas* Holidays he ſpent with great Chearfulneſs; his firſt Complaint was on the Day of the *three Kings*. Having aſſiſted at the Ceremony of bleſſing the Water, the Weather being very inclement he was attacked at once by a ſevere Cold, a violent Strangury and Retention of Urine; which an Impoſthume in the Bladder had cauſed, and on the 28th of *January*, 1725, put a Period to his Life.

A Probe was applied for his Relief, but too late; it eaſed him for a Time, by opening a Diſcharge to a good deal of the Matter; but this Relief was tranſitory, his Pains returned with Increaſe of Torture, and during four Days he ſuffered prodigiouſly; yet the Hero and the *Chriſtian* appeared through all his Affliction. Nothing can be a ſtronger Proof of the great Attention he had to his People's Welfare, than his giving Orders for ſhortening Lawſuits when he was at the laſt Extremity.

Senſible of his approaching Diſſolution, a few Days before he expired, he ordered the Senate, and the Counſellors, with the other States of the Empire to be aſſembled; to whom, for his Succeſſor in the Empire, he declared the Empreſs

Empreſs *Katharine*. Not only his Subjects, but all other Nations were amazed at his bequeathing the Imperial Throne of *Ruſſia* to a Woman of ſo mean an Origin.

The EPITAPH on PETER the GREAT.

Hic jacent
Reliquiæ, vix mortales
PETRI ALEXOWITZ,
Ruſſiarum *Imperatoris haud opus eſt dicere;*
Honorem enim iſti Diademati addidit,
Non recepit.
Taceat Antiquitas,
Cedat ALEXANDER,
Cedat CÆSAR;
Se facilem præbet VICTORIA
Heroum Ductoribus
Milites vinci neſcios imperantibus;
Sed ILLE,
Qui in Morte ſolâ requieſcit,
Non Famæ avidos,
Non Bello peritiſſimos,
Non Homines mortem temnentes,
Sed Bruta vixque humani Nominis dignos
Subditos invenit;
Etiam Hos, compatriis Urſis ſimillimos,

Et

Et averſantes expolivit
Barbaritatis hæreditariæ Tenebras,
ILLE PHÆBUS fugavit,
Et propriâ Virtute,
Germanorum Victores vicit.
Alii fæliciſſime Exercitus duxerunt;
HIC *creavit!*
Erubeſce ARS!
Hic Vir maximus tibi nihil debuit.
Exulta Natura
Hoc ſtupendium tuum eſt!

IMITATED.

Here lie the Remains
Of PETER ALEXOWITZ,
To whom the Title of Emperor
could add no Luſtre.
He reflected more Honour on the Throne,
than he from thence received.

Let antient Fame be Dumb;
Alexander and *Cæſar*
yield the Palm to him.
It is eaſy to conquer at the Head
Of diſciplined Troops
Compoſed of Veteran Heroes;

But

But PETER, now freed Toil,
Succeeded not to Rule
Men thirſty of Fame
Skilled in the Arts of War,
And unappalled at the Approach of Death.

Thoſe whom he firſt led to Battle
Had nothing of Humanity but their Form.
Fierce and Savage as the Bears of *Ruſſia*,
He broke them to Society,
And ſoftened their Aſperity of Manners.

Their *Sol*, he chaſed the Hereditary Gloom
That nurſed Barbarity ſo long amongſt them.
Their *Mars*, he rouzed each latent Spark of
Manhood, and forced the Conquerors
of *Germany* to ſwell their Triumphs.

Moſt Heroes find Troops ready trained;
Peter created his.
Bluſh, vanquiſhed Art,
To whom this Foremoſt of Mankind owes
Nothing;
But Triumph Nature: He's your Paragon!

FINIS.

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